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BADGER & MANLEY, Publishers and Proprietors.

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TERMS: Two Dollars per annum, in Advance.

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Fairs to Occur.

Cumberland County—At Portland, September 27—

28.

Cumberland Farmers' Club—At West Cumberland, October 6—7.

Franklin County—At Farmington, September 28—30.

Kennebec County—At Readfield, September 28—30.

Kennebec and Somerset Union—At Fairfield, September 28—30.

Lincoln County—At Damariscotta Driving Park—September 28-30.

Maine State Agricultural, State Pomological, and Androscoggin County Agricultural Societies—At Lewiston, September 14—17.

New England and Eastern Maine Fair—At Bangor, August 31, and September 1—3.

North Kennebec—At Waterville, September 21—25.

North Penobscot—At Lee, September 30, and October 1.

North Aroostook—At Presque Isle, September 14—16.

Northdgewock—Elmwood Park, Oct. 1—2.

North Somerset—At Bingham, Oct. 8—9.

Oxford Valley Society—At Cornish, September 7—

Penobscot County—At East Eddington, Sept. 21—

Somerset Central—at Skowhegan, Sept. 21—23.

Waldo County—At Belfast, September 22—23.

West Franklin—At Phillips, October 5—7.

West Penobscot—At Exeter, September 28—30.

Western Piscataquis—At Monson, the last week in September.

York County—At Biddeford, Sept. 28—30.

The receipts of butter in the Boston market are in excess of those of last year, and large quantities of June make have gone into cold storage.

The largest barn in the world is probably that of the Union Cattle Company of Cheyenne, near Omaha. It covers five acres, cost $125,000, and accommodates 2,750 head of cattle.

Judge Gresham, of the Federal Court at Chicago, has decided that it is the duty of the government to protect the carrying trade of railroads from interference of strikers, under the law guaranteeing interstate commerce of common carriers.

Reports from the hop districts in Schoharie and Otsego counties grow worse as the crop comes on. Several growers in that section report their crops likely to prove a failure. Hop lice and honey dew have covered the vines and already many of them are dead. The crops that suffer most are in the villages or in the sandy soil.

Cleanliness and healthy food are the essential prerequisites to healthy and thrifty pigs. Pigs are the worst abused class of domestic animals on the farm. It seems to be expected of them that they can thrive in filth, even when fed on filthy food. Give them clean pens, or better still, a run on the ground in warm weather, with green food as part of their diet. Good stock cared for properly will seldom show disease or bring losses to their owner.

Haying is now at its height. The prolonged dry weather has reduced the yield something below what was promised just before the work of harvesting was begun; but it still is a good crop. The extremely hot and clear weather of last week afforded a favorable opportunity for the work of haying, and in many sections of the State farmers improved the time by striking vigorously into good grass. With the tools now in use the work can be pushed rapidly.

"What is the use to cut up Indian corn for fodder while in bloom and containing only thirteen per cent. solids, when by leaving it till ears are formed and the kernels beginning to glaze we can get 25 per cent. solids instead?" asks Dr. Goessman of the Massachusetts Experiment Station. So say we to farmers who have cut their fields of grass before nearly grown, and several days before a single blossom had appeared. The yield of hay at that early stage is not nearly as large as later, and weight against weight the fodder is not as valuable.

It is not quite two years since that, in company with the editor of the *New England Farmer*, we visited a coöperative creamery at Amherst, Massachusetts, which was then struggling with its first experiences in butter making on the cream gathering plan. The early experience of this creamery was similar to that which has been encountered by the first ventures here in our State, and its patronage at the time of our visit was less than two hundred pounds of butter a day. The entire cost of making and selling the past year was 4.44 cents a pound. The patrons received 18.7 cents per pound net for their May butter.

Experiments at the Station.

Field and garden experiments are being carried on at the experiment station at Orono quite extensively this season, and all the promising varieties of results in nearly every instance. A large number of plots of considerable extent are in oats fertilized with phosphoric acid, and in its different forms, with the view of noting the effect of this element in the different forms designated as soluble, reverted, and insoluble. Other tests with other elements on similar plots are in progress.

In the garden a large number of kinds of the newer varieties of vegetables, grains, corn, &c., are being tested under like conditions, with a view to determine their comparative merits and learn if among them are varieties of special merit. A large number of varieties of potatoes, obtained of seedsmen, are in the test. A class of nice experiments, with fertilizing material derived from different sources, is being carried on in field boxes planted in the ground. Many of these are of much importance, as will be readily seen when reported in full.

The force in the laboratory for the past three months have been almost exclusively engaged with the analysis of fertilizers. This work is now nearly completed for the year, and has been very carefully conducted throughout. The completed results will be of much interest to all farmers. The full report of this work is now in type and will be issued in a few days. The station report of the work carried on the past year will soon be issued, in connection with the annual report of the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, and will show that a large amount of work has been accomplished with the appropriation furnished.

The Provinces at the Fair.

A lively interest is being manifested by our Provincial neighbors in the forthcoming New England Fair, to be held in Bangor in connection with the Eastern Maine State Fair. We are informed by Mr. F. O. Beal, in charge of the horse department, that the liberal money put into the running races and offered in prizes for the classes of horses in which they are especially strong, is awakening a much wider interest than heretofore. As a result he is already assured that the running races will be contested by a larger number of entries than ever before, and that the heavy class premiums will bring out a strong competition. This will prove gratifying to the people of our State. We like to cultivate fraternal relations. An interest among the horse stock exhibitors naturally extends out among the people, and will bring large numbers to the fair. Swelling the receipts of the fair is desirable, but the presence of the Provincial people brings the further gratification of an introduction to our choice stock, our methods and practices, and to our varied resources, and brings with it that friendly and familiar intercourse always desirable among neighbors. We are glad the Provinces are going to be largely represented at the fair.

Grass at the College Farm.

The college farm never looked so well in all its appointments as at the present time. The grain sown was seeded in good season, and has now got well started and is promising a first class crop. But the pride of the farm is in its fields of grass. Almost all the farm has been quite recently worked, and is now covered with a burthen of grass that can but be the admiration of every one who looks upon it, as it stretches away acre after acre. There will be full two hundred tons of the crop this year. There are about forty acres of clover, seeded last year, every rod of which is covered with a heavy burthen. The twenty acres of new land which Mr. Howell, the superintendent, has reclaimed from an entirely worthless condition in three years, is now literally covered over with a crop of Alsike clover that is so stout as to be badly lodged throughout the field. It will cut an immense crop. The twenty acre field plowed three years ago, manured with superphosphate alone, and sowed to oats and seeded down to grass the same year, and which in the crop of oats and the first crop of grass paid all the cost of the work, in this, the third year, in grass, showing a crop of a full average of a ton and a half to the acre. The same field gave twenty-four tons last year.

This is illustrative of farming, which is a good object lesson to lay before the students at the college, and which if visited by our farmers, would show to them the possibilities of a good strong soil, when devoted to grass under an intelligent management. If there are any left who scout at science applied to agriculture, let them visit these fields of grass and see its results.

Turner Grange in Procession.

In an illustrative parade at the centennial celebration of the town of Turner, which took place on July 7th, the Turner Grange took a conspicuous part. In a town where agriculture is the chief occupation of the people, it is an evidence of progress that farmers are banding themselves together, in organizations devoted to the promotion of agricultural interests. The idea is modern in all its aspects. In a celebration, then, designed to commemorate the past and at the same time note the progress that has been made in these hundred years, by a comparison with the present, certainly agriculture should have a place, and in that place the Grange has earned a position.

It was not practicable for the Grange to appear in a body. Representative carriages were arranged, the first carrying the four leading officers in rank and bearing a banner inscribed with the name of the Grange. Following was a carriage with the body officers, each in separate apartments, and each wearing their insignia of office, and over the same bearing a banner inscribed with the name of the office. Following these in order were illustrations of the several degrees, each with their appropriate banner. These were all elegant, modern carriages in uniform style. Closing up the rear of this division was a decorated hayrack, in the center of which were seated six young ladies with two young gentlemen at either extremity, with their backs turned upon the central group. Over them a banner bore the inscription "On Middle men Here." It was conceded by all, that this division formed an interesting feature of the procession, and that the Turner Grange did itself credit in illustrating a modern agricultural institution.

Bulk in Cream.

The article in our issue of July 1st, from our Piscataquis correspondent, on the St. Albans creamery, brings up the matter of bulk in cream. The comparative value by measure of the cream from different herds of cows was one of the first questions raised by the owners of cows when the cream gathering plan of butter making was presented to their favor. The wide variation reported in the article above referred to again brings the matter forward for notice, and while the matter is still far from being fully settled we give an article from the *Ohio Farmer*, describing methods of measuring the butter-making value of cream:

"A perplexed subscriber" writes to know about the bulk of cream—why, if 113 cubic inches is reckoned a pound of butter, they are "docked" for shortage etc, etc.

Exact truth is a realization slowly approached, and this holds true in regard to the determination of the real value of cream. For a long time dairymen have generally worked on the assumption that equal amounts of cream had equal values, and was the same in quality, and all calculations were based on this reasoning; but as progress in it was found that it would not hold good, and every cause but the right one was offered as an explanation of the variableness. Creamery men, honest, and trying to get at the truth, have found that this variation is wonderful, that a "space" of cream may make only half a pound of butter, while another space churned by the same rule would make one and a half pounds of butter—a difference of more than 200 per cent.

Now it depends something upon the way cream is raised, as to its butter value, bulk measure. The cream on a tin pan, slowly raised, is richer the longer it stands before it becomes; but this thick cream may be so skimmed that it will be largely diluted with milk. The cream of the cold process of cabinet creameries is raised so rapidly, and is therefore so largely mixed with the fluid of the milk that it is thin and "sloppy," and will only contain, quart for quart, less than one-half of the butter that exists in pan-raised cream from similar milk.

When the centrifugal machine was introduced, it was thought that there could be no variation in its results, but it was soon found that the butter in the cream were subject to some variable influence, and this was soon found to proceed from the way the machine was set to run fast, slow, medium, or rapid-delivery, a greater or less amount of milk being thrown off by the machine at the will of the operator, which was a valuable feature where cream is sold in the city by the quart, but subjected the cream at the factory to the same scrutiny that it had been subjected toward cream raised by other methods.

Then it was that operators were forced to employ some test aside from bulk measure to determine the butter value of cream. "Churning a sample of the patron's cream twice per week, and figuring up his credit by this standard, was next introduced. When "spaces" alone were relied upon, the "leakage" on the season's make-up of a large creamery was liable to reach several thousand pounds, which had to be made up by a lower price. The churning test partially corrected this, but was accordingly expensive, and entailed quite a loss besides, and was productive of no end of dissatisfaction. The cream gatherer was provided with a big box, and as many quart fruit jars as he had patrons, and a sample of cream was taken from each patron's amount. This was taken to the creamery and churned on a rocking rack, some twenty samples being churned at a time. When it came each sample was washed free from buttermilk, salted and worked, and then accurately weighed and the calculation of the butter fats made on the weight of butter in the proportional part of a "pound." That it will not be accurate is manifest, but that it will be nearer the truth than guessing by spaces is true. If the cream of these samples were of exact and like conditions, it would be a fair test, but the richer the cream will be of different degrees of acidity, and the like, and each would require different degrees of temperature in churning, and different periods of time under the churning for separation. Some would be churned just right, some far too long, and others not enough, and the result is not hardly justice to the patrons, as calculations and amount of butter made will hardly come out even. Then there is a loss on this test butter, for the 300 samples will, under the conditions, vary greatly, and when mixed make a package of very inferior butter, which has to be sold for grease prices, which makes a further deduction. Mixed, as was the larger bulk of the cream and ripened alike, the butter would have been of uniform grade and of fine quality, but in separate samples it would be impossible to have them alike.

It finally began to dawn upon the minds of some, that the butter fats in cream could be better ascertained by the "oil" test, and that the per cent. of melted butter in a sample of cream must be accurate, and this has led to a most simple and easily conducted test that does full justice to every patron and at the same time reduces the labor of the tests and the loss to a small per cent. on one, and a fractional one—if any—on the other. The process is simplicity itself. The driver is provided with as many ⅞ inch flint, maleable glass tubes as he has customers on his route. These vials are about eight inches in length, and have a graduated scale of 1-10 inches to the inch. The cream is mixed at the dairy, and measured accurately in inches. Enough of this is then taken to fill this glass tube just half full, about 2 oz. These tubes are numbered and registered according to the patron's name. At the creamery these tubes are closed with rubber stoppels, and 100 of these numbered bottles or tubes are put upon a "shaker" and violently agitated until butter comes in all of them. These tubes being securely held in a metal rack, are removed, rack and all, and put in hot water for one hour. This causes all of the butter fats to rise to the surface in the form of oil. The scale on the side of the tube shows exactly the per cent. of butter fats that exist, and as the bulk of the cream is measured in inches and tenths, a ready reckoner enables the operator to tell to the ounce the amount of butter in each patron's cream, and the result will not vary to exceed 1½ lbs. to ten thousand of butter.

There is no loss, for as soon as each patron's per cent. is found the oil is turned carefully off, and in the end this oil is turned into the cream vat and will be churned with its original cream. By this plan the patron is not obliged to set his milk by any one's patent device, nor await the drivers appearance to skim the milk. All that is necessary is to have a cream pail exactly 13 inches in depth and 12 inches inside diameter. Into this pail the cream is put at any time that best suits the good wife's convenience. The "inches" in such a pail exactly tally with the "tenths" on the scale, and it makes no difference about the thickness, thinness, or richness of the cream. The butter oil it contains is the final decision and the correct one.

The superiority of this plan over any other is evident to any one. There is no waste, as pure oil contains no moisture, salt or buttermilk. It is impossible to churn, work, and weigh small samples perfectly uniform as to condition, but this system has but one single test—weighing the oil of a sample, and must be accurate.

In a small way this could be used to ascertain the actual butter value of a cow. The amount of cream that may be raised from the milk of a cow for a season to go by as to the amount of butter it will make, but the cream measured and subjected to this test would tell better than any combined sample, for it would tell the exact caseine, sugar, water, salt, and some butter fats, and I think that tested by this method, the records of some famous cows would be lowered to an alarming extent.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Forests and Rainfall.

We believe it is a false theory, that rainfall is not affected by forests, in quantity and time. In our view, forests not only cause greater precipitation of moisture, but tend to retain moisture longer in the soil. Burning drouths were unknown in the early days of this country. Forests are retainers of moisture, and repellants of evaporation. Everyone remembers the diminishing springs and streams after the forests are cleared away. With Bryant's Indian the forest says:

"But I behold a fearful sign,
To which the white man's eyes are blind.
Before these fields were shorn and tilled,
Full to the brim my rivers flowed.
The melody of waters filled
The fresh and boundless wood.
And numerous springs, unseen, unrulely played,
And fountains sported in the shade.
These grateful murmurs are heard no more,
The springs are silent in the sun,
The rivers, by the blackened shore,
With lessened current run.
The realm our tribes are crushed to get
May be a barren waste yet."

Our hill tops should be again covered with wood growth to attract and retain moisture; not only this, but to prevent wasting and washing of the soil. Many hill-sides lose annually more fertility by washing than is taken off by crops, and away, than they lose by cropping. Let us look at the past and the present of some of the older countries of the world in this regard.

"At the time when Joshua conquered the Promised Land, milk and honey were flowing into Canaan; that is, it was a country of great fertility, blessed with a delightful climate. Lebanon, with its Hermon and its Spur Mountains were then densely covered with forests, in which the famous cedar predominated, that stately tree, so masterly and poetically described in the 104th psalm. By the removal of these large and increasing population of Palestine enjoyed comfort and abundance during centuries. But the gradual devastation of the forests, which was brought about mainly by the Venetians and the Genoese, brought about a general deterioration of the country. The hills of Galilee, once the rich pasturing grounds for large herds of cattle, and of fine quality, have now only very little pasture, an insignificant stream, and the several smaller rivers, mentioned in the Bible, now appear as stony ruins, leading off the snow and rain waters only often for a few days during the greater part of the year. Some few valleys, in which the fertile soil washed down from the hills, was deposited, have retained their old fertility, but the few cedars that remain on the north-west corner of the Maronite convent on the rocky and barren Lebanon, look lonely and mournfully upon an arid and desolate country, and to sustain one-sixth of such a population as it contained at the time of Solomon."

R. W. Phipps tells us that the progress made by Germany in tree planting "during the past few years is astonishing. The credit is given to the great Frederick; it was part of the national policy of his day which raised Prussia from a small power to a great one, and to the energetic continuance of that policy, Germany owes Sadowa and Sedan. By this forethought, vast armies have been maintained, where once the sandy deserts would not nourish a flock of goats, and successive regiments of hardy soldiers have poured forth from the fertile soil where, two hundred years ago, the rugged debris of winter torrents, the thorn and the thistle, overspread a thirsty and impoverished land.

From these great countries, the one lying a desert, the other reclaimed and strengthened, we turn to the isles of the ocean.

The Island of St. Helena, the well-known scene of Napoleon's banishment, furnishes a remarkable illustration of the connection that exists between forests and "leakage" on the season's make-up of a large creamery was liable to reach several thousand pounds, which had to be made up by a lower price. The churning test partially corrected this, but was accordingly expensive, and entailed quite a loss besides, and was productive of no end of dissatisfaction. The cream gatherer was provided with a big box, and as many quart fruit jars as he had patrons, and a sample of cream was taken from each patron's amount. This was taken to the creamery and churned on a rocking rack, some twenty samples being churned at a time. When it came each sample was washed free from buttermilk, salted and worked, and then accurately weighed and the calculation of the butter fats made on the weight of butter in the proportional part of a "pound." That it will not be accurate is manifest, but that it will be nearer the truth than guessing by spaces is true. If the cream of these samples were of exact and like conditions, it would be a fair test, but the richer the cream will be of different degrees of acidity, and the like, and each would require different degrees of temperature in churning, and different periods of time under the churning for separation. Some would be churned just right, some far too long, and others not enough, and the result is not hardly justice to the patrons, as calculations and amount of butter made will hardly come out even. Then there is a loss on this test butter, for the 300 samples will, under the conditions, vary greatly, and when mixed make a package of very inferior butter, which has to be sold for grease prices, which makes a further deduction. Mixed, as was the larger bulk of the cream and ripened alike, the butter would have been of uniform grade and of fine quality, but in separate samples it would be impossible to have them alike.

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For the Maine Farmer.

Agriculture.

This has been an ancient service, and will continue as long as time shall last. Moses says: "After God had made man he put him into the garden to till and to dress it." This is the first occupation in which man ever engaged, and it has been in operation ever since, and will be as long as men are inhabitants of this world; for man could not exist without the products of earth, and these will not grow unless the land is cultivated; and man is the being that is constructed to do the work, and crops could not be raised unless the ground is ploughed, the seed sown, and the fruit gathered. Then is the vitalities restored to the soil enabled to live and do the work that is required; for man could not live if it were not for the products of the earth, and the nations of the old world testify to this. And there are more people engaged in this business than there ever was in any other since the world began, and it is a healthy as well as profitable employment. And our farmers are about as happy and enjoy life as well as any other class of people; they work in the daytime, eat their food and relish their milk, and when night comes they lie down and "sleep the sleep" without any need of the policeman or night-watchman to guard them and the crops they have gathered.

April was a dry month. There was but very little rain during the thirty days of its continuance, and so was the first part of May. But of late we have had some beautiful rains, and the face of nature, now speaks of health and vigor, and presents a flourishing appearance. I have often thought of the old maxim with which I was familiar in the days of my boyhood:

"A dry April and a wet May,
Will fill your barn with hay."

The new, rich, green lands have looked flourishing, but the old fields look rather meagre. Since the rains which we have had, the grass has sprung up and the fields promise better than before. The hay crop, which is being garnered, will be a good one.

Our forests present a beautiful appearance since the rains have fallen, and the leaves have come out, but they suffered severely from that ice storm which we had last winter. A great many small trees were broken down, limbs of others were broken off, and a good many of those now standing, in time, will die because of the damage that has been done to them. I never knew such a storm before, and have heard a great many aged people say the same. It not only damaged trees in the forests, but shade trees in the villages and by the wayside, and also our fruit trees suffered as well as the others. But we must be content and hope for the best

D. Q. CUSHMAN.

For the Maine Farmer.

Good Stock.

E. D. Thompson, North Livermore, has the bull Lycurgus, two years old last February, a very nice animal, bred by Bodwell & Burleigh. He also has the two-years-old heifer, Miss Pentre, 6 feet in the line, imported by Bodwell & Burleigh, sired by Gay Boy, dam Pentre II; now owned by Gen. G. B. Shepard, Skowhegan. This heifer is due to calve July 18th, and is one of the most perfect shaped animals that I ever saw. Mr. Thompson has a pair of calves sired by Lycurgus, ⅝ and ⅔ Hereford, weight 400 lbs. when 6 weeks old, very nicely matched, that are likely to have honorable mention at the coming State Fair.

D. L. Chenery, Peru, has a stock of about thirty head, a good herd, Durham and Hereford grade. At the head of the herd is the thoroughbred Hereford, King Fast, from the herd of L. W. Flint, Waterford.

L. Chaney, East Wilton, has a very nice steer team, one pair three-years old, Durham, all red, handy as oxen, 6 feet, 10 inches; one pair two-years-old, 5 feet, 10 inches, both pairs nicely matched, and all good shaped animals.

C. S. A.

The Food of the Future.

An address delivered by Prof H. W. Wiley, of the Department of Agriculture, at the commencement of the Agricultural College of Indiana, Purdue University, June 7, 1886.

Of the Other Mineral Elements

which are used for plant food, viz: calcium, iron, manganese and a few others, the supply in the soil is so great that there is no danger of it ever running low. It must be confessed, however, that without some scientific method, rigidly followed, of returning phosphorus and potash to the soil, there would be quite a prospect of the human family starving long before the radiation of heat into space makes the earth uninhabitable. Beds of coal and lakes of oil and caverns of gas are not inexhaustible. The fuel of the future cannot always be taken from the savings of the past. The largest bank account will finally be swept away by the influence of a constant fire of checks, unless kept up by some system of deposits. And so with the anthracite which now, safely locked in the Alleghanys, seem sure of an eternity; and the petroleum poured into the pits under Pittsburg from the archaic stills of nature; and the gases which issue from the imprisonment of ages like Alcola of old, when the doors of the Monongahela hills are drilled by the busy burglars of industry; will pass away in time the old stores of potash and the vast beds of phosphates. That system of agriculture which exhausts these stores without any attempt to restore them is like the idle heir, living on the industry of his dead father, and surely, it may be rapidly or slowly, yet surely nearing the bankruptcy of bankruptcies, while on the other hand, that system of farming which places such stores in circulation, restoring always to the soil all and may be more than restored to it, may be likened to the industrious man of business who uses his patrimony to increase his income and add to the general wealth of the community. But you may ask, if everything must go to nothing but phosphorus and potash? No, truly, on the contrary these two substances which we have seen are of so much importance in respect of the future food supply, are really a very minute portion of the aggregate of human food. It is the organic parts of plants and not their mineral constituents which form

The Bulk of Animal Food.

This part of plants is made out of nitrogen which the plant gets from some form of ammonia or nitric acid, and of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, which it gets from air and water. What is the prospect of the future supply? It seems to be quite foolish to suppose for an instant that the supply of water should ever run short, especially when the bulks of modern life have introduced such a rigid economy in the use of water. Professor Tyndall's dry jokes.—Eds.] Yet a day in the sage brush of Arizona, or a week among the barren hills that surround Malaga will put one in a condition to appreciate the fact that although water be plenty its distribution is extremely uneven. The rainfalls that refreshed the placid pleslosaurus were immensely more abundant than the drizzles that drip upon the streets of London. The amount of precipitation increases equator-wards and progressive congelation has already diminished by an incalculable amount the quantity of aqueous vapor in the air. It is not difficult to go back imaginatively to a remote period when the whole of the water of the world was aeriform and all the seas were in the form of a huge, steaming hydro spheric dome. Rains of rain that fell sizzed and boiled on the newly formed surface of the earth, when nature was taking that great Turkish bath which was to prepare it for its future activities. The apotheosis of steam took place long before Watts. But how it must have rained in those early days. Thus even water may not always be available as a source of nitrogen. But most of it has been crowded into the seas or fixed in vast continents of circumpolar ice.

Carbonic acid is the next compound which demands our attention. It is already a fugitive. There is a bitter fight for every molecule of it. Only in churches, lecture halls, deep old unused wells and Pullman cars, is it permitted to live in peace and abundance. The air is constantly refining chlorophyll takes place that curious practice of chemistry by which the inorganic becomes the organic and on this change human life is based. We are used to hearing praised the

Wonderful Economy of the Animal

by which the food is taken to the tissues and made a part of the living body. I have too much respect for the gastric glands and the thoracic duct to seek to minimize this operation. But to me the work of the little clot of chlorophyll seems far more wonderful. The chief conditions necessary to the operation of this mysterious vital chemistry are light and heat. It is only in the sunlight, in artificial equivalent, that the chlorophyll cell is capable of seizing the fugitive molecule of carbonic acid and converting the carbon therein contained into organic matter with the help of water. The illustration and exposition throughout the world have culminated in the organization of the "International Statistical Institute," which has already many meetings to its credit, and there are representing this country, Gen. F. A. Walker, Col. Carroll D. Wright, Mr. Dodge, and three or four others.

The duties of statisticians are evidently among the most laborious and difficult in the whole range of government positions. The functions of this office include co-ordination of the facts of production, commercial distribution and consumption, rates, wages, resources, progress, and experiment in this and foreign countries; for a knowledge of the agricultural changes in this country will not suffice, where the farmer is also an exporter.

The crop reporting system, a growth of over twenty years, in which a reporter with a corps of assistants returns on the first of each month a statistical statement of each county, is handled by Mr. Dodge, with an ample office force, and a lieutenant in each State at the head of a local work of publication and publication of results. There is an agent also in Europe, Deputy Consul General Moffet, at London, who makes a simultaneous monthly report. The work is done with such celerity that in the last day of the month, or the first day of June, a synopsis of the report is telegraphed by the press association, and the text itself is sent to the printer, and issued by the middle of the month. The publication of the final estimates of crop, for permanent record, is understood to be the most difficult of the statistician's work, in which he has been unassisted from the first.

As certain returns in the current law of mental philosophy are always too high, others invariably too low, and others still approximately truthful, it is a work of labor and experience to reach results. For instance, the estimate of the cotton crop of 1884 was found, ten months later, to be the actual record of the cotton movement, though the correspondents' returns of final product were less by over half a million bales, as we learn from Mr. Dodge. In this work three separate methods of arriving at the crop result are employed, and all differences and discrepancies are harmonized and adjusted.

There are over sixty persons employed in the statistical division, and the mails carry calls for the services of from 8000 to 10,000 persons.—*National Republican.*

The Pear Tree Fire and Leaf Blight.

The fire blight disease is often very destructive to the pear, and its effect is to cause the leaves, shoots and sometimes the entire tree, but more often only a portion of it, to turn dark brown or black, as if scorched by fire. It always follows some cause of weakness, as late growth in the fall caused by the use of coarse manure or late cultivation, when the shoots are injured by cold, or after bearing a heavy crop of fruit; or it may result from an exhaustion of the soil, or from the unnatural growth, caused by plowing after the land has been in turf for some time, or from seeding down with a grain crop. In almost every case that has come under my observation, some reasonable explanation can be given for its appearance. The disease is of a fungoid or algoid nature, and only attacks trees that have become weakened in some way.

The only remedy is, first, to cut away the diseased parts as soon as the disease appears; and by the use of the proper kind of food and cultivation, obtain a healthy growth. If the soil is rich, do not cultivate, and apply potash; if poor, use potash, fine ground bone and some nitrogenous material in the fall or early spring.

The leaf blight is a disease that attacks the leaves of young seedling and sometimes of established trees. It is a fungus growth, similar to the grape, strawberry and other leaf diseases, and is remedied only by good cultivation and proper food. It often comes upon the pear seedlings planted in the nursery in July, when, upon the first indication of its presence, budding must begin, or the leaves will soon fall off and budding cannot be done at all until the following season.—Prof. S. T. Maynard, Massachusetts Agricultural College, in *Homestead.*

Floral Hints.

The growing of carnations is quite simple. The seed may be sown at any time before the first of August, in any convenient spot where the ground can be got in as good condition as it would be for early vegetables. Sow the seed thinly in rows at convenient distance to work readily. When the plants are two inches high transplant into pots where wanted to bloom. Keep them clean until the weather is cool and frozen, then cover even with the tops of the plants with newly-fallen leaves, which can be kept in place with some brush. When gardening operations commence in Spring, rake away the leaves, fork in the earth between the rows, and in June masses of this beautiful and fragrant flower will be the reward of your industry.

Pansies can be had in quantity in Autumn if the seed is sown in June. Although usually regarded as Spring flowers, they bloom as freely and the flowers are equally as fine in the fall, if proper care is taken in the culture. They delight in a heavy soil and a cool, moist atmosphere, in a partially-shaded position. They will not endure our summer sun. Asters can be obtained from seed sown in June, and better flowers will be secured than if the seed is sown earlier, as the plant is impatient of hot, dry weather, and is, moreover, liable during August to attacks from the aster beetle that completely destroys the flower before it is fairly open. Late plantings are free from this insect pest, and there are no flowers in the early autumn more useful than the aster.

Mignonette can be sown now and in succession until the first of August. Give the plants plenty of room, and keep the spikes cut so that the seed will not ripen, and a few plants will furnish flowers the whole season. Larger and finer sprays, however, will be secured if they are not allowed to branch, and when wanted for bouquets, take the plant entire.

Matthew Crawford of Ohio gives the following method of making a lawn: After the ground is prepared as it should be for sowing the seed or for sodding, find the number of yards to be covered; then procure one-sixteenth as many yards of sod, cut it in pieces three inches square, and place them a foot apart all over the ground. If in rows both ways, so much the better. Pound each one into the ground with the back of the spade. In a short time each piece will send up a bunch of green spears, and later in the season they will all run together. Every gardener knows how spaces between may be kept clear of weeds with a lawn mower.

In cultivating tuberoses, if possible, always purchase Northern-grown bulbs. The bulbs may be planted out in the dry state from the 20th of May on, always selecting, if possible, a strong, rich soil composed of a sandy loam. Do not plant too much in the ground at one time, as many bulbs will decay, and stir the ground occasionally to prevent baking. The bulbs may be started in boxes or pots in the sitting-room or hot-bed, and pots holding about one pint are large enough for one bulb. If you wanted for early blooming they should be started in pots about the 10th to 20th of April.

For late flowering it is well to plant the dry bulbs, for then you can have a succession of bloom. In the fall, after the frost has cut down the growth, it is customary to dig up the old clumps, but this does not pay when you can buy in the spring medium flowering bulbs for a trifling sum. These old bulbs seldom flower a second time. In selecting the bulbs, always choose those that show little down in the centre of the bulbs. Better have small, sound ones than very large ones that have not been properly cured.

A correspondent on the subject of keeping cut flowers says that changing the water and putting a little ammonia in it, though good as far as it goes, will not do everything. It is observed that the night light, gas or lamp, wilts them soonest. Many sorts of flowers will keep fresh for a week if they are placed at night in a bowl set in a cool place, and covered with a cloth. In the morning they should be returned to vases filled with cold water.

The family of Tropeolum, of which the canary-bird flower is an illustration, will live and give new florets for a month if a long spray is broken off and placed in plenty of water. If placed in a long bottle behind a picture, this plant blooms very effectively in water during the late autumn. Snow-drops and daffodils picked in bud will keep in water for three weeks and the blossoms are larger than if allowed to come into full bloom on the parent stalk. Many of the wild flowers are more enduring if cut in bud. Roses are often kept for a week by gathering them when the buds are soft and the first leaf beginning to uncurl, and placing them in a shallow dish of cold water in a dark cellar with moss over the stalks.

Almost any flower but wild roses, that dies so quickly, will retain its beauty and freshness in a dark cellar, kept in ice-water, with moss. Clipping a trifle from the ends is sometime practiced, though there is no satisfactory method of restoring flowers that have faded after evening wear. The main points in preserving flowers are to keep them from the light and to have the water perfectly cold.—*Floral Cabinet.*

Woman's Department.

To Mrs. Martha E. Morrill.

[On the death of her son Sanfield, aged nine years.]

You miss, to-night, the laughing light of your little boy's face;
And oh! you miss his loving kiss, and innocent embrace.
His winsome ways and pretty plays, his laughter glad and free,
The accents sweet that used to greet your heart with boyish glee.

The sweet caress that used to bless, when on your bosom light
His dimpled face, so full of grace, was pillowed for the night,
Passed all away in one sad day, and shaded all your joy.
For pleasure bright, and life and light were centered in your boy.

Now still and cold beneath the mold your darling boy doth lie,
And sad you weep, that death's cold sleep has sealed his lovely eyes.
But hush, to-night those eyes so bright see heaven and all the blest;
For safe from harm, in Jesus' arms, your darling's gone to rest.

His boyish brow is wearing now the crown to seraphs given,
His sunny hair, and cheeks so fair, have caught the glow of heaven,
The rosebud lips you loved to kiss, are warbling songs of joy,
For free from pain and earthly stain is now your darling boy.

No shade of night or withering blight can fall upon his heart;
He ne'er will know any earthly woe to make the tear drops start.
But forever more on that bright shore, where all is life and joy,
In peace shall rest with seraphs blest, your darling angel boy.

ELLEN S.

Not All Alike.

I am very much interested in our column, and thought I would write a few lines on the subject of wife slavery, so Pearl Lemon might know one more sympathized with her and also to correct her's, or someone's statement, "that men were all alike."

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, July 15, 1886.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

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Collectors' Notices.

J. H. PRATT will call upon our subscribers in Kennebec county during July.

C. S. ATER will call on our subscribers in Knox county during July.

J. W. KELLOGG will call upon our subscribers in Penobscot county during July and August.

We have received from Carrie C. Purinton, East Harpswell, a cluster of Mountain Laurel, the variety which was referred to in our columns some time since. It grew on the farm of Miss Hannah Anderson, in East Harpswell.

The cattle herds throughout Clinton county, Illinois, have suffered greatly of late by a disease called "blackleg," which has recently made its appearance among the younger class of stock. It invariably proves fatal. Most of the calves that have died have been of very high grade.

That grand charity, the *New York Tribune*s fresh-air fund, has this year been augmented to the amount of $6,000, and last week the work was begun of sending the little ones out into the country. Under the stimulous of this charity, kind-hearted residents of rural villages and farm-houses have gladly consented to receive many of the little folks and to care for them for a fortnight, without expense to the fund.

The *Bangor Commercial* thus refers to our reporter of the Watertown markets:

Hon. Isaac C. Libby, of Burnham, the big stock dealer, arrived in this city to-day from Aroostook county. Mr. Libby has several agents there who have secured about 7000 sheep and several hundred head of cattle for him to be taken in the fall. He reports that portion of the State to be in a flourishing condition; good hay and grain crops are promised, with potatoes looking finely and a large acreage of them. All the wool has been bought up at 23 cents.

The fourth re-union of the Universalist Sunday schools of Maine occurred at Lake Maranocook, Thursday. A large number of people were present and the occasion was in all respects a success. The forenoon was spent in greetings and social conversation, and the afternoon in literary exercises. Addresses were delivered by Rev. J. S. Gledhill of Gardiner, Rev. J. W. Jenkins of Belfast, Rev. E. E. Peck of Bangor and Rev. Q. H. Shinn of Deering.

The well-known journalist, Ben. Perley Poore, who has been the genial friend of most of the celebrities of Washington society for last half century, has just delivered to his publishers the manuscript of his life work, "Reminiscenses of Sixty Years in the National Metropolis," soon to be issued by subscription in fine picturesque style by Hubbard Brothers. It is a charming presentation of Life in the Capital roan "ye olden time" to the wedding of President Cleveland.

Paul H. Hayne, the southern poet laureate, died at his home at Cops' Hill, near Gravestown, Ga., last week. In his death American literature loses a bright ornament. Mr. Hayne was one of the few Southern men who had gained a reputation in the world of letters. He was a nephew of that Senator Hayne to whom Webster once had occasion to make a reply, and he had already published several volumes of verse at the beginning of the war. Mr. Hayne dropped the pen for the sword, but his health soon broke down in camp and he returned to literature. He was 55 years old.

In May, 1830, Hon. Hannibal Hamlin and Horatio King were minors. They purchased the Jeffersonian paper at Paris, where they resided. They employed Henry Carter, then of Bridgton, a lad of 17 years, as printer. The three named constituted the entire force on the paper. Last week, during the centennial celebration, after 56 years, these gentleman met in Portland, hale and hearty, and as bright as men can be. They have made their mark in life in full. Mr. Carter was several years editor of the Advertiser in Portland. He now resides at Haverhill, Mass.

We have received the premium list of the 23d annual fair of the New England Agricultural Society in connection with the Eastern Maine State Fair, at Bangor, on the 31st of August, and 1st, 3d, and 3d of September. Pamphlets will be furnished on application to the officers at Bangor. Hon. Geo. B. Loring, president, Hon. Daniel Needham, secretary and Hon. George W. Riddle, treasurer of the New England Fair, together with the executive officers of the Eastern Maine State Fair, will hold a session at the Bangor House, August 2d, for the purpose of selecting the expert judges for the various departments of the Fair and arranging other details for the great exhibition. Plans for the fair and its attractions are constantly being made and everything points to their being successfully carried out.

The Maine delegation, together with their friends and members of the Woman's State Relief Corps, will leave Portland Thursday, July 22d, at 8.40 A. M., via Boston & Maine for Boston. At Boston they will unite with Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and Vermont delegations and friends, as well as the National and State departments of the Woman's Relief Corps. A special train with the above named will leave Boston, via Fitchburg Railway at 4.30 P. M., July 23d, arriving at Niagara Falls, July 23d at 8 A. M. Leaving at 4.30 P. M.; arrive in Chicago July 24th, 8 A. M. Leave Chicago at 5 P. M.; arrive at Omaha July 25th, at 8 A. M.; leave at 12 noon; arrive at Denver July 26th, at 7.30 A. M.; leave July 28th at 8 A. M.; arrive at Salt Lake City July 29th at 11.30 A. M.; leave July 31st at 7.30 A. M. The train will arrive in San Francisco August 1st at 7 P. M.

A circular signed by G. H. Ryerson, president, and H. R. Hopkins, secretary and treasurer of the 9th Maine Regiment Association, stating that it has been found impossible to hold the regimental reunion at Ellsworth on the last Wednesday of June, as voted at reunion last year, but in order to keep alive the organization of the "Old Ninth," it has been proposed to meet at Old Orchard Beach, Tuesday, July 20, 1886, has been issued. Colonel Rich and many others are expected, who have not been with the regiment since the close of the war. It is in contemplation to prepare a history of the regiment, and each comrade is earnestly requested to freshen up his memory and bring to the reunion any papers, letters, records or diaries he may have that will tend in the slightest degree to give any information of the regiment, or any one who was a member of it.

According to Bradstreet's summary for last week there are more encouraging signs in business. "The reports of damage to the wheat crop have tended to higher prices, and there has been in the Chicago markets a gain of six cents a bushel. The visible supply of sugar is less than last week, but the general good crop outlook will prevent any increase in price. The dry goods trade is encouraging and dealers in all lines report autumn prospects as favoring an active and remunerative trade in staple goods. The money market has been firmer and the demand for funds is active and increasing. Interest rates are higher. Mercantile collections have notably improved. The bank clearings at 20 cities last week aggregate $837,183,448 (five days only) against $968,570,297 one week before, and as compared with $762,888,036 the second week in July, 1885 (six days). Thirty of the leading railroads report $73,994,000 gross earnings for six months of 1886 as against $69,846,000 for the first six months of last year. As to failures, 153 were reported to Bradstreet's during the week against 174 last year. The total in the United States from Jan. 1 to date, is 5586, against 6431 in 1885, a decline of 843 this year.

Not There, But Hers.

Although coming from a master mind, that was not good advice, "Go West, young man, and grow up with the country." Why? Because the chances for you to succeed are better here in the good old State of Maine. We receive the intelligence of the good fortune of those who have gone west and achieved success, but the deplorable failures do not get into the papers. While the one success is trumpeted loudly abroad, we hear next to nothing of the ninety-nine failures. A circular has been sent us, ostensibly coming from a banker and agent for the sale of Western lands, notably those of the Red River valley of Northwest Minnesota, from which we extract the opening paragraph:

"This paper is addressed to the farmer who finds the process of tilling New England soil unproductive; to the young man who finds that he must leave the home farm to make a living; and to the mechanic or workman who has learned that long hours of confining toil have brought him but small profits and perhaps failing strength. To all such we would say: Do you desire to own a farm in the thriving and growing West, and are you desirous of knowing more about what is being done and can be done in a region where a man can possess himself of a rich and productive farm, and make an independent future for himself and his children?"

We should be pleased to know when New England soil became "unproductive." We have yet to find that young man who is obliged to leave the home farm "to make a living," but we know scores of them who have returned home after trying the experiment elsewhere. We make the broad assertion, and believe it to be strictly true, that the mechanic and workman are as well paid in New England, and live as well and lay up as much money, as anywhere else on the globe, as a class, while enjoying more than is anywhere else attainable.

These Utopian lands of the far and bleak Northwest, in a state of rudest nature, are offered to New England farmers and merchants at the "very low price" of six to fifteen dollars per acre! Remarkably low price, when we consider that tornadoes, blizzards, grasshoppers, malarial fevers, Indians and all, are thrown in! Often a man, after improving a farm, finds he is at work on some one else's land, and is ousted by some alleged defect in the deeds, patents, or grants. Right here in New England, indeed right here in Kennebec county, improved farms, buildings, fences, roads, churches, schools, society of the best kind, and all the desirable accessories of life, are within reach. We can give our young men a better trade than the Western speculators. Lots of improved farms are to be had here for from ten to twenty dollars an acre, with their privileges and opportunities.

Now, why go West, young man? If fever and ague is an object, then go. If roughing it, and living in a dug-out, or sod house, on the scantiest fare, is really to be hankered after, why you can do it by going West. With the best of flour here at retail for six dollars per barrel, figure what the man who raises the wheat, in the far West, gets per bushel. With corn at fifty cents here, figure what the man who raises it at the West gets per bushel, after the middle man, the elevators, and the railroads have taken their several parts from the price. The markets of the great West are on the Atlantic seaboard. Whoever goes West must, unless he has adequate means, be at the mercy of the speculators, the big fish eating up the little ones. Reflect that the far West is a good ways from home, and do not be enticed by these misleading circulars and pleasing proffers made by men who are after your money.

THE FISHERY TROUBLES. Following is an abstract of the allegations in the proceedings against the schooner Ella M. Doughty of Portland, seized on charge of violating the treaty obligations between this country and Great Britain. The paper itself is very long, making fourteen large pages when written on a type writer. It is alleged that she entered the bay of St. Ann with the purpose of preparing to fish and take in fish contrary to the provisions of the treaty; that she did so take and cure fish; that on days and subsequently the vessel was fishing there and was seized, together with her cargo, by Donald McAuley and Lauchlin G. Camphill, officers of the customs of Canada, as being liable to forfeiture for violation of the convention and acts mentioned above.

The document concludes in these words: "Hon. John DeThompson, Her Majesty's Attorney General for the Dominion of Canada, on behalf of Her Majesty, the Queen, claims condemnation of said ship and cargo and her guns, amunition, tackle, apparel, furniture and stores for violation of said convention and of said several acts."

The Portland schooners City Point, C. B. Harrington and George W. C. Cushing, seized at Shelbourne for violation of the Canadian customs laws, proceeded on their voyage to the Banks Monday evening, the total amounts having been deposited with Collector Ross of Halifax by United States Consul General Phelan. The trouble is over. The payment of the expenses incon nection with the seizures of the vessels is understood to have been settled by the owners.

Home Rule has been temporarily defeated in the English elections, and while Mr. Gladstone has had a great personal triumph, the result of the elections involves an immediate change of Government. His resignation will be deferred until the results of the elections are definitely declared, but there is every reason to believe that it will precede the meeting of Parliament. This was the precedent followed by Mr. Disraeli in 1868, and by Gladstone himself in 1874, and by Lord Beaconsfield in 1880. On each occasion the Government of the day had appealed to the constituencies without success; and without waiting to confront a hostile Parliament. Each Prime Minister promptly resigned and enabled his successor to write the Queen's speech. Last November there was a departure from this rule and there was reason for it. The Conservatives, while outnumbered by the Liberals, were in alliance with the Nationalists and the coalition had a clear majority. It was Lord Salisbury's duty as well as privilege to remain in office and to meet Parliament. But ordinarily when a Prime Minister has appealed to the country and been outvoted, it is only frittering away time to retain office. A Government which has lost the confidence of the country is discredited. It has nothing to gain by facing Parliament and being ignominiously expelled from power.

A MUNIFICENT GIFT. The real object of the recent visit of Rev. Joseph Ricker, D. D., of this city, to Dakota, has come out, it being the bearing of a donation of $30,000 to Colby University. This munificent gift comes from Mrs. Catherine L., widow of the late Judge W. E. Wording of Fargo, Dakota, an early alumnus of the college, and for many years past a member of its Board of Trustees. Wm. E. Wording was born in Castine of this State, in 1812, and was graduated at Waterville College, now Colby University in 1836. He was always a true friend of the institution, and contributed largely to its funds. He had achieved great success at the West, where he was honored by many public positions. This grand gift of Mrs. Wording is absolute, and hence free from all the contingencies incident to testamentary provisions. It will become largely and perhaps wholly available for use in the course of 1887, and is to be expended in the erection of a building to be known as "Wording Hall." Work will be commenced on the new structure next spring. This marks a new era in the history of Houlton Academy. The Academy is admirably located, and cannot fail to exert a wide influence for good in a flourishing section of the State. With added facilities the work can be greatly enlarged.

J. Fred Lockwood, Brewer, State College, class of '86, is to assume a position in the New York Electric Light Company, New York City; and Edwin D. Graves, Orono, same class, goes into the office of the New Brunswick railway as draughtsman.

It behooves the farmers, during this great drouth, to use every precaution to prevent fires, and to use resolute action in extinguishing fires that have started. Too much care cannot be used.

Mortimer Whitehead, lecturer of National Grange, is to give a series of lectures before the several granges in Massachusetts during the month of August.

Are Strikes Profitable?

Computations made by well-informed parties as to the losses incurred by the recent railroad strikes in the Southwest, are to the effect that the strikers lost in wages fully one million dollars, and that the funds of the Knights of Labor organization have been depleted one hundred thousand dollars, in efforts made to alleviate distress among members who were then out of employment. The loss sustained by the railroad companies is estimated at over four millions of dollars. Aside from this, there has been a large amount of loss incurred by business men through delays in transportation and detriment to their business and trade, these parties having no direct interest in the dispute between the Knights of Labor and the railroad corporations. The entire pecuniary loss cannot be less than six millions, every cent of which represents so much downright waste. For this immense expenditure the only return received by the laboring man is that large numbers, not members of the knights, secured situations at the expense of the strikers who lost them. No principle for which the strikers contended was in any degree established by this action, nor was the power of great corporations to determine and control their own methods of conducting their business in any way lessened. It is to be hoped that all concerned will take home to themselves the lessons which are contained in the above figures. If they teach anything, it is that strikes do not pay.

AN OUTING AT JEFFERSON. We don't know where the vacation season could be more pleasantly spent than in the beautiful town of Jefferson, at the head of Damariscotta Pond, (it ought to be called Lake), with headquarters at the charming "Lake House," post office address, East Jefferson. Those who remember the old hotel by that name, will find it over-shadowed by the new, which has been built within a few years, and fitted and furnished with all the modern conveniences. The proprietor is Mr. B. P. Brown, who, if he were not a Methodist, we should say was fore-ordained to take charge of just such an establishment. He is quite a farmer, and though often found busy at his tasks in the field, has, with his estimable wife, time to attend to the wants of his customers. In the height of the season, his house of forty rooms, is not only full, but rooms have to be obtained at the houses of accommodating neighbors. The "Lake House" overlooks Damariscotta pond, which is 15 miles long and 14 miles wide, and abounds in bass, perch and pickerel. A safe and staunch little steamer, capable of carrying 50 persons, commanded by a son of Mr. Brown, makes two trips down the pond each day, making close connections with the trains of the Knox & Lincoln Railroad at Muscongas Bay, in the the town of Nobleboro'. This steamer is of forty-horse power, and was built upon the Penobscot. The river connecting with the lake winds its sinuous course past the hotel up into the country, turning the wheels of manufacturing establishments. An excursion down the lake furnishes a series of grand surprises, with the many beautiful islands, coves, the borders of the lake dotted with scores of thrifty farms, the fair landscape diversified with dense woods, green pastures and fruitful fields. The hotel table is equal to any to be found in the large cities, and all the appliances for comfort, peace and rest, seem to have been invoked. We were accompanied in our recent trip to this place by Dr. W. B. Lapham, who has recently been writing up summer resorts, and he was enthusiastic over the advantages of this inland retreat, as is also Dr. James W. North, who thinks so much of the place that he has purchased a residence near the lake, and is enjoying life there with his family.

THE MAINE CHATAUQUAN CELEBRATION was held at Lake Maranocook, Wednesday, the address to the Chatauquan Teacher's Reading Union was delivered by Prof. W. W. Stetson of Auburn. In the absence of Dr. T. W. Bicknell of Boston, Rev. J. W. Bashford of Portland spoke in relation to the coming Fryeburg meeting. Rev. Edward Everett Hale, D. D., of Boston, delivered an oration on "Education." The same address will be delivered at Chatauqua, N. Y., soon. In opening he referred to the fact that the order had 400 members in Japan. He argued that the languages taught in colleges superficial, and contended for thoroughness of the Chatauqua course. He discussed three points of training: bodily, mentally and spiritually. All blend together. Society demands so much time that we can devote but two or three hours daily to mental improvement. In this we should choose well. Low spirits are sometimes the sign of poor training, not always lack of physical effort. There is a moral dyspepsia caused by unvaluable literature so extensively read. This he considered. He did not attempt to discuss the power of genius but argued for adaptibility. If you mean to do anything do it. In this you will excel. Elocution is useless as a whole. Practice singing, as this improves the voice for other work. Ye olden time was filled with gems that surpass in brilliancy the so-called improvements of "modern tunes." "Auld Lang Syne" is sweeter now than ever. He urged spirituality in everything, and Christian virtue as a need of life.

Mr. Hale spoke an hour, and was frequently applauded. The address was full of practical ideas. The awarding of diplomas to the class of '86 by Mr. Hale was followed by intermission. Glover's band interspersed excellent music during the exercises. The day's doings were much enjoyed and have been eminently successful.

THE MAINE PRESS EXCURSION. The members of the Maine Press Association left Portland Monday noon on the Flying Yankee for their annual summer excursion. They occupied one of the elegant Maine Central Pullman cars, number 56, kindly tendered for their use by General Manager Tucker. The ride to Mt. Desert was passed very pleasantly in forming acquaintances and various amusements.

At Bar Harbor the party will make their headquarters at the Atlantic House until Saturday. A delightful programme of amusements has been arranged and will no doubt be smoothly carried out under the direction of President Owen of the Association. The following is a correct list of the names of those making the trip:

Howard Owen and wife, *Maine Farmer*, Augusta; Horatio King and wife (Honorary), N. Newton, Mass.; H. K. Baker and wife (Honorary), Hallowell; Rowell and wife (Honorary), Hallowell; J. A. Homan and lady (Treasurer), Augusta; H. K. Morrell and wife, *Home Journal*, Gardiner; Geo. W. Drinko and wife, *Union*, Machias; W. B. Lapham and wife, *Farm and Hearth*, Augusta; P. O. Vickery and wife, *Fireside Visitor*, Augusta; Mrs. Lydia A. Lunt and husband, Presque Isle; J. F. Hill and wife, *Bangor Whig and Courier*, Augusta; T. R. Simonton and wife, *Herald*, Camden; Arthur E. Forbes, *Democrat*, Paris; Geo. H. Gilman and wife, *Pioneer*, Lewiston; Miss Lapham, *Mike*, *Farmer's Almanac*, Augusta; F. E. McLeary and wife, *Journal*, Farmington; W. D. Stinson and lady, *Illustrated Monthly*, Augusta; C. A. Pillsbury and lady, *Journal*, Belfast; John M. Wood and wife, *Morn Journal*, Portland; Miss Adams, Portland, Miss Gilpatrick, Portland; Geo. S. Rowell and wife, *Advertiser*, Portland; Albro E. Chase and wife, *Globe*, Portland.

Hon. Edwin Flye of Damariscotta, died Monday morning, at the home of his daughter in Ashland, Kentucky, aged sixty-nine. He was a member of the National House of Representatives in 1875, and also of the Maine legislature. He was an extensive shipbuilder and one of the leading projectors of the Knox & Lincoln Railroad. He was president of the first National bank in Damariscotta for many years. He has been in ill health for a number of years. He spent last winter in California. He will be buried in Damariscotta.

Sunday afternoon an immense cloud of grasshoppers settled down on a wheat field in the vicinity of Sanborn, Dakota, on the Northern Pacific railroad some 65 miles west of Fargo, and in a very short time cleared 50 acres of every vestige of greenness. Several other fields in that neighborhood were also partially destroyed. About sunset they rose and flew southwest.

The next meeting of Androscoggin County Grange will be held with Minot Centre Grange, Wednesday, August 4th, at 10 A. M. Question for discussion: "Resolved, that the Grange is more valuable as an educator than the common school." Bro. John Goss, Sister Dorothy Waterhouse, Bro. Bean of West Minot Grange, Sister Knowlton of Excelsior Grange will open the discussion.

Another Brutal Act.

The citizens of Portland were thrown into intense excitement Saturday morning by the announcement of a terrible domestic tragedy, occurring Friday evening, at Lincoln street terrace. Clarence O'Hare, ostensibly a peddler, but by common reputation a smuggler, has lived with his wife for a number of years, having a comfortable and even luxuriously furnished home. Both O'Hare and his wife are said to have been in the habit of drinking to excess at times, and especially when O'Hare was home from one of his expeditions across the Canadian boundry, from which expeditions he returned flush with money. Furthermore, it is said by the neighbors that Mrs. O'Hare was custodian of the money that O'Hare earned, and took good care of it.

Saturday morning about half past 4 o'clock, Mrs. Kilfeather, who lives at No. 44, across the street from O'Hare's house, was called up by O'Hare who asked her to go over and attend his wife, O'Hare telling her his wife was dead. Mrs. Kilfeather hastily dressed and went across the street, supposing that O'Hare had preceded her and expected to meet him at his house. When she got there, however, she found the street door open and no one about the house. She called for O'Hare, but no answer came. Everything on the lower floor of the house was in disorder, the furniture thrown around in indescribable confusion. She was appalled at the condition in which she found the house and did not dare go up stairs where she knew the sleeping apartment of Mrs. O'Hare were located. She returned home therefore in great agitation and called Mrs. Hagan, who lived in another part of the same house she occupied, and then, accompanied by Mrs. Hagan, returned to the scene.

The two women entered and went up stairs where they found the same state of disorder as found on the first floor. Entering Mrs. O'Hare's sleeping apartment a cry of horror involuntarily burst from their lips, for there in the middle of the floor, surrounded on every hand by the wreckage of furniture, lay the naked body of Mrs. O'Hare. The two women hastily covered the dead body of their unfortunate neighbor with a blanket and ran out of the house wild with terror and excitement. The sheriff was quickly informed, the county jail being but a short distance from the stable for a team before he put his clothes on.

By the time the officer was present, the team was ready and they set out in quest of the missing man. He was encountered only a little way from his home. He was in an intoxicated condition and disposed to resist capture, but finally accompanied the officers to the station, though with bad grace. He would not say much about the affair, but admitted that he had had a fight with his wife.

O'Hare is a stout built man about 45 years of age, and has been in the clutches of the law several times before, having served terms in jail and the work house. Later in the afternoon, the coronor being notified, a jury was impanneled, who viewed the remains and the scene of the tragedy. An inquest was held, the neighbors testifying that O'Hare was seen drunk Friday afternoon, and he was drunk Saturday morning when arrested. Michael Hanlon, shoemaker on Washington street, had been with O'Hare for two or three days, but said he went home at his house. He was also with O'Hare Saturday morning, drinking, and was with him when arrested.

Dr. W. H. True testified that he was called to examine the body. He found a bruise on the side of the head and a large swelling. The lip was cut and blood was oozing from the nose. Black and blue places were on each arm and shoulder, but there were no signs visible how the wound was inflicted. The wounds, apparently, were not such as to have caused death. O'Hare says he put $40 on the table and his wife took it and hid it. He afterward demanded it, and she refused to give it up. They had a struggle and tore up the furniture. His wife, he says, was drunk, and after disrobing for bed she fell over. He felt of her heart, and finding it did not beat he summoned the neighbors. O'Hare has retained W. H. Loony and Col. A. W. Bradbury as his counsel, and refuses to say anything more about the murder. A daughter of O'Hare, who is now in Boston, will be sent for, and says she has known her father to demand money of her mother, but never knew him to beat her. Dr. Cummings says he has been called several times to sew up wounds of Mrs. O'Hare, received at the hands of her husband. He says O'Hare for a long time has been getting more and more brutal. Dr. Cummings and Dr. Gerrish discovered wounds from blows on her head, several of them not being apparent until the scalp was removed. The doctors will not say positively that the wounds were sufficient to cause death, but they infer that they were. When O'Hare was arraigned, he waived examination, and plead not guilty and was committed to jail to await the action of the Grand Jury.

A ROMANCE. An Englishman, aged twenty-one years, who gave his name as William Henry Hodding, has been for two months an inmate of the county jail at Rochester, N. Y., where he was committed as a vagrant. During this period he has at intervals conversed in the most intelligent and rational manner, giving every indication that he had been well bred and highly educated. Sheriff Hannan succeeded in drawing from the man the names of his friends and relatives in England, with whom he communicated.

Saturday the sheriff received three letters from London, one from the young man's mother, one from the family solicitor, and one from the young man's uncle. The mother's letter tells how she had tried for a year to learn of her son's whereabouts and had given him up for dead; how his father had been promoted to a generalship in the British army, now serving in India, and how overjoyed she is to hear that her son is still alive. She enclosed a letter to the young man which is full of affectionate advice. The uncle's letter tells how Hodding's parents gave their son the best education, with the intention of his entering the army. When he failed to pass the examination the father provided him with an outfit and sent him first to Manitoba, and thence to Kansas, with the object of having him taught a useful and easy occupation. Bad behavior at both of these places on the part of the boy led to his removal and he became a wanderer.

The great strike or lock-out in the tanneries and currying shops of Peabody and Salem, Mass., was fully inaugurated Tuesday morning, in accordance with a vote of the Knights of Labor at a meeting held last evening. The men refused to work in those shops where the notice of the executive committee had been posted. This affects not only the tanners but likewise the curriers. There are 54 tanneries and they employ on an average twenty tanners each. The strike includes journeymen, teamsters and others. There are only three places, so far as known, where the notice was not posted. The men all went to the shops this morning at 7 o'clock. The bosses were all present. In the shops where they had been in the habit of beginning work at 6 o'clock they were refused admission. In the others they found the notice posted and left. The result is that over 3000 men are now idle. The bosses show no signs of yielding and the men are firm.

NOMINATIONS BY THE GOVERNOR. The following nominations have been made by Gov. Robie:

Justices of the Peace—H. Taylor, Topsfield; W. A. Fogler, Belfast; George M. Chapman, Fairfield; John D. Storer, Lewiston; Albion L. Merrill, East Eddington; T. C. Keegan, Van Buren; F. A. Dickey, Northport; Thomas Cannon, Southport; Rufus H. Allen, Limerick; Wm. H. Hilton, Damariscotta.

Trial Justices—Charles Kidder, Belgrade; Joseph B. Lewis, Readfield; Frank A. Greer, Belfast.

Notaries Public—W. B. Foster, Bar Harbor; Chas. E. Boardman, Calais; Sullivan W. Bates, Portland.

John B. Smith, of New Britain, Conn., had more apples than he knew what to do with last fall, so he stored 400 barrels in a neighbor's ice house. In the winter the house was filled with ice, all around the apples, which were solidly frozen. To Mr. Smith's great surprise the fruit, a few days ago, was found to be in perfect condition. He shipped twenty-five barrels to New York and they sold readily at $3 a barrel. More were called for and now the whole 400 barrels of hard, fresh, sound Baldwins have been sold at that price, right in the middle of June.

The Elmwood Trotting Park Association at South Norridgewock, will hold their next trotting meeting, Aug. 13 and 14. Liberal purses will be offered, and the managers intend to make this the best meeting yet held on the Elmwood. A grand stand will be erected, and other improvements made in season to entertain the public.

A FOOLHARDY ACT. C. D. Graham passed safely through the Whirlpool Rapids at Niagara Falls in a cask, Sunday afternoon. He is a native of Philadelphia, 33 years old, and a cooper by trade. Having conceived the idea of making the foolhardy voyage, in attempting which Capt. Webb, the swimmer, lost his life, he constructed a barrel for the purpose. It was of 1¼ inch staves, and was shaped like a buoy, being wide at the top and narrow at the bottom. Sand ballast was fixed to keep upright. Graham hung, or rather stood, in a sort of hammock, made like a suit of clothes, and held on to iron handles fixed at the sides. He calculated that he could live half an hour without fresh air, and by that time he expected to be safely through the rapids, when he could pull out the plug and get a new supply.

About 4 o'clock, Graham crawled into his barrel and closed the man-hole at the top from within. A boat then towed the cask out from the shore at a point on the American shore below the Falls and about 300 rods below the cantilever bridge. The swift current caught it and carried it along, moving faster and faster, until it dashed on with full force. The cask bounded up and down over the great waves, and several times turned a complete somersault, but generally the wider portion remained uppermost, although it twisted around like a top. The cask kept pretty well in the centre of the river till it reached the whirlpool, when it struck a strong side current and was carried swiftly through, reaching the quieter water beyond. From here the journey was comparatively easy. The cask floated on towards Lewiston, right side up, and all danger was passed. It was picked up at Lewiston, about five miles below the starting point, and Graham came out of the barrel uninjured with the exception of a slight bruise, which he received when passing through the whirlpool. He remarked: "When I struck the eddies it was a continued round of jolts, but I am not hurt a bit." Graham receives no compensation for his wild sail but the "glory" of the thing. Few people knew when he was to make his attempt and consequently he did not have many spectators.

The cask is seven feet long, 33 inches in diameter at the widest part, 23 inches at the top and 18 inches at the bottom. It is bound around with iron hoops, which weigh 250 pounds. The ballast weighs 340 pounds. Graham will probably repeat the trip. He says he will yet go over the Horseshoe Falls.

A SAD CASE. A relative of the Grant family in Washington, is authority for the statement that the married life of Nellie Grant Sartoris is far more humiliating and unpleasant than has yet been made public. Mrs. Sartoris makes her home with her husband's father in the north of England. Here, according to all accounts, she is treated as a sort of poor relation. Two rooms are set aside for the use of herself and children, and their meals furnished, but nothing else is given to them either by the husband or Mr. Sartoris, Sr. So far, indeed, as the younger Sartoris is concerned, it is said that he has not contributed a penny to his wife's support for years. It is a well known fact that for a couple of years prior to Gen. Grant's death remittances of money were regularly sent to Nellie to provide her and her children with clothing and other useful articles. When the general became impoverished through the rascality of Ferdinand Ward, the greatest regret he is said to have expressed was that his poverty would prevent him from further assisting Nellie, who was practically supported by his bounty.

All the members of the Grant family who still contribute to the support of Mrs. Sartoris and the children, have urged Mrs. Sartoris for years to separate from her husband and return to America. It is said that Mrs. Grant made such a request only a few months ago, after learning of some fresh indignity on Sartoris' part. But the daughter replied that she would not entertain such a proposition a moment, and added, indignantly, that she would refuse to sustain relations of any character with her family if these importunities did not cease. Meantime Sartoris is racing about England spending the meagre allowance his father gives him among companions of his own kind. The reports which reach here from New York say that Sartoris has been absent from his wife since last spring, and that she hears from him only at rare intervals.

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION. Turner celebrated her centennial on Wednesday of last week. A big tent had been raised at the village for the exercises, and fully 5000 people were present. The procession was a mile long. It represented various historical scenes, with settlers in costume. Each school district had a team loaded with children in costume. The Norway band led the procession. The exercises at the tent occurred at 11 o'clock in the forenoon. Prayer was offered by Rev. E. Martin of Saccarappa. The address of welcome was given by Dr. J. C. Cushing, and was followed by singing of 100 voices.

The historical address was delivered by Rev. H. R. French. He traced the history of the town from the grant to Joseph Sylvester, a captain under Col. Benjamin Church, and his sixteen men, for services in the Indian wars. In 1771, the proprietors induced three settlers—Israel Haskell, Moses Stevens and Hezekiah Bryant—to locate in the town. The succeeding years brought more settlers. The first child was born in 1776. The town, which had been called Sylvester, Canada, was incorporated July 7, 1786, and named for Charles Turner, Jr. The people for many years carried all their corn in bags on their shoulders to New Gloucester, where the nearest mill was situated. Addresses were also made by Judge Gilbert of Bath, Judge Wilson of South Paris, and many citizens of the town. Mrs. Rich of Auburn read a poem. The people of Turner were untiring in their preparations for the event, and made the centennial celebration a great success.

The most disastrous strike of the year, so far as the misery of the strikers is concerned, is just now in progress at the Grape Creek coal mines in Illinois. For sixteen months the miners have been engaged in a series of strikes. Last fall, after a long suspension, work was resumed, the miners being willing to accept almost any terms rather than run the risk of being out of work through the winter months. But when spring came, they again demanded an advance in wages, asking for the Pittsburg rate of 75 cents a ton. This demand being refused, they went out and are now without work. They have been driven out of the company's houses and, the majority of them are compelled to live in the woods. Some have been able to put up shanties and other tents, while many have only the trees for shelter. The people living in this manner number about a thousand. All are in most destitute circumstances, having scarcely clothing enough to cover them and hardly food enough to subsist upon. While the women and children are endeavoring to obtain food and clothing, the men spend their time in preventing the negroes, imported to work the mines, from taking their places. The alternative appears to be, that the strikers must finally return to work at the old wages or, with their wives and children, starve in the woods.

The Monson railroad is a curiosity. Its rails are laid two feet apart, and the locomotive and cars are all on a corresponding diminutive scale. The distance from the junction with the Bangor and Piscataquis at Upper Abbott to the station at Monson is about six miles, while the side tracks branch to the quarries, etc., make the whole length of road eight miles. It is a sharp up-grade the whole distance from Abbott to Monson, with the exception of a few rods, and yet the trip is made in twenty minutes, but the run has been made in ten minutes. In coming from Monson to Abbott of course no steam is needed, and the brakes have to be used all the way. In its present condition—the road and rolling stock cost $80,000. The expense of running is about $500 a month, and in the month of June the company received $1200 for the slate hauled. Of course there are months in the year, when the business of the road will not pay expenses, but take the year through, and it is doing well.

There are thirty-two separate taxes on wheat in Mexico from the time it leaves the field until it reaches the miller.

VOLCANIC FIREWORKS.

Steamer Alameda, which arrived at San Francisco Monday from Australia, brought the particulars of the fearful volcanic eruptions in New Zealand last month, which are among the most destructive in the world's history.

The first report of volcanic disturbances came from Tauranga in the Auckland lake district. The natives of that village were abruptly awakened from their sleep at 2 o'clock one morning by repeated vivid flashes of lightning, which continued at rapid intervals up to four o'clock, when a tremendous earthquake occurred, followed quickly by several others. The shocks were so violent that the people jumped from their beds and, paralyzed with terror, fled for their lives in their night clothes, making no effort to save or take anything with them except their children. The earthquakes continued to follow each other in quick succession up to 7 o'clock when a leaden cloud was observed advancing from the south, spreading out until it covered the whole sky. While still moving it burst with the sound of thunder. Shortly after, showers of fine dust began falling.

Accounts from other points state that Mt. Tongariro was the first volcano to break forth, and hardly more than its flames were issuing from the crater when the entire range belched forth in sympathy, hurling floods of burning lava and stones over the surrounding country. For the first time in tradition the extinct volcano of Ruapehu was awakened into activity. The entire country over an area of 120 miles long by 20 in breadth, was nothing but a mass of seething, hot rumbling soil. During all this time showers of dust continued to fall until it became so dense as to make the day dark as night, and not until the second day did the dust cease falling. It was noticed that the dust emitted a strong sulphuric smell. Numerous small villages were totally destroyed. Wairoa was covered to a depth of 10 feet with dust and ashes. Rahtomahana was completely engulfed as were also several other small villages. Twenty-one persons are known to have lost their lives, among whom were several English residents. The number of cattle starved to death on account of the destruction of pasture land is very large and great distress exists throughout the Auckland lake district. One old Maori chief, Ratama, was dug out alive after having been buried in ashes 24 hours. Every effort was made to save the lives of others but in most cases where bodies were found they were dead.

Still further details state that the most violent disturbances were felt in the neighborhood of Ratona. The severity of the earthquake shocks led many of the people to believe that the island would sink into the sea. The sensation experienced was fearful beyond description. Immediately after the first shock the inhabitants rushed frantically in all directions. When the second shock came the entire country for miles around was lit up by the glare from the volcano, which was then actively in full to activity. The scene was as grand as it was awful. Huge volumes of smoke illuminated with flames simultaneously burst forth from the range of mountains over sixty miles in length, and above the smoke could be seen great masses of fire resembling meteors rushing through the sky. The natives who had escaped death gathered in groups, and filled with terror, held several services in jail and the work house. Later in the afternoon, the coronor being notified, a jury was impanneled, who viewed the remains and the scene of the tragedy. An inquest was held, the neighbors testifying that O'Hare was seen drunk Friday afternoon, and he was drunk Saturday morning when arrested. Michael Hanlon, shoemaker on Washington street, had been with O'Hare for two or three days, but said he went home at his house. He was also with O'Hare Saturday morning, drinking, and was with him when arrested.

The scene among the mountains as viewed from the Wairoa road is terribly grand. Flashes of lightning, peals of thunder and the earthquake shocks are incessant, while dust is falling in heavy showers. In addition to these inconveniences the roads throughou. this entire country are covered with several feet of blue clay which is impassable. Vegetation of every kind is destroyed and the aspect of the country is entirely changed. Blue lake and lake Rotomahana have been transformed into immense mud holes. The outlet of the latter lake is blocked up and the hot springs which cross the lower end are covered with mud. Nearly all the buildings that I have noticed are crushed in by falling mud. At Auckland, Snow's temperance hall and two others are reported to be ruined, and all of the other buildings in the town are completely wrecked. A house occupied by Mrs. Hazard and her family was borne down by the weight of the debris. Mrs. Hazard and her two children were found dead. Mr. Hazard is missing. Detailed reports of the foreign residents and other people who were killed have not yet been received.

The captain of the steamship, Southern Cross, which arrived at Auckland on the 18th of June, reports having felt at sea the effect of the disturbances. On the morning of the 10th inst., the day of the great earthquake, he experienced a downfall of dust. From 5 to 10 in the morning there was complete dark

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Items of General News.

Ex-President Arthur is reported to be much improved in health.

On Thursday, 305 new cases of cholera and 87 deaths were reported in Italy.

Out of 750,000 inhabitants claimed for Chicago, only about 175,000 are Americans.

Judge Field of the United States Supreme Court is in ill health and likely to resign.

Albanians and Montenegrins are still fighting.

Orangemen will celebrate the anniversary of the battle of the Boyne, at Belfast and Glasgow.

Emperor William will present the Sultan of Zanzibar with a battery of artillery and equipment.

The total vote in the British elections up to Saturday night: Union, 1,209,874; Gladstone 1,118,973.

A hail storm in Pecos Valley, N. M., is reported to have killed 2000 head of sheep belonging to one man.

There are three sisters living in Ohio, who are respectively 106, 109 and 112 years old.

James Clark, one of the canvass men in Forepaugh's circus was killed by the cars at Portsmouth, N. H., at 1 o'clock, Thursday morning.

The Prince of Wales is arranging for a visit to Australia next year. He will probably go by the Canadian Pacific Railroad route.

The captain of the steamship Circassian says he passed thirty-eight icebergs outside and two in the straits of Belle Isle. Some of them are very large.

A chemical fire engine plunged down an embankment in Chicago, Thursday. The tank broke, and the chemicals flowing over the driver and pipeman, literally eating them up.

At the last meeting of the parliamentary fund committee held in New York city Monday evening, between $130,000 and $140,000 had been collected, and $100,000 sent abroad.

Fire on Friday, in Haverhill, Mass., consumed many thousand dollars' worth of property. It commenced in Saltonstall's block, Merrimack street, and consumed many places of business.

The Senate Committee on Commerce has reported adversely the nomination of Herbert F. Bescher to be collector of customs at Port Towusend, W. T. He is a son of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

The President has signed the bill forfeiting the land grant of the Atlantic & Pacific railroad. This act restores to the public domain about 30,000,000 acres of land, which will be thrown open to settlers.

The Lonsdale Company's cotton mills at Ashton, R. I., shut down Monday in consequence of the going out of 28 spinners, thus throwing out 500 employés. The trouble arose over a question of insufficient pay.

A well sunk at Knowersville, Albany county, N. Y., has struck very fair quality of natural gas which burns with a bright yellow flame. For the present the gas will be burned under a boiler which provides power for drilling the well, and the excavating will continue.

About five weeks ago Mrs. John Abbot of Diamond's Corner, Contocook, N. H., was bitten by a dog. The wound was in the wrist and apparently healed. A few days ago it exhibited signs of swelling and irritation, and Wednesday the woman became violently insane and died.

Mr. Charles Marsh, member of the firm of Jordan, Marsh & Co., Boston, had a stroke of apoplexy, on Thursday, and died Friday. He began poor in life. In commercial circles Mr. Marsh ranked high as a manager, and socially was held in high esteem.

Eighty convicts were at work in a brickyard a few miles from Little Rock, Arkansas, Monday, and the entire number made a sudden dash for liberty. The guards immediately leveled their rifles and fired, killing three of the fugitives and mortally wounding a fourth. None escaped.

The people of Dakota have just had a fearful experience with a simoon, which has been freighted with terrible suffering. On Thursday, the heat was so intense that the thermometer indicated 100. There were several cases of sunstroke, and the people had their faces and hands blistered with the heat.

The drought in West Texas is causing frightful mortality among cattle. The cattle men place the loss to date as high as $6,000,000. The drought has lasted a year in some portions. Crops in the dry regions are failures, and destitution prevails. Several counties are taking steps to appeal to Congress for aid.

Thursday afternoon Mrs. Nellie E. Davis dressed herself in white, lay down upon her bed in an upper room of her house on West Erie street, Boston, and shot herself through the head with a revolver. She expired instantly. Mrs. Davis was 23 years of age and attractive. She came of good parentage and was highly educated in a Boston seminary. Domestic troubles the cause.

An electric storm of a very destructive nature, accompanied by hail and rain, passed through Dixon, Ill., Sunday night, doing great damage to crops of all kinds, especially fruit which will be a great failure. Buildings of different kinds and telephone and telegraph wires were blown down in various places throughout the country.

The postmaster general has added 453 post offices to the list of money order offices, the business of that number having increased during the year so as to come within the provisions of the law authorizing the establishment of money order offices. Of these Connecticut has 6, Maine 3, Massachusetts 7, New Hampshire 4, and Vermont 4.

The schooner Samuel V. Colby arrived at Gloucester, Monday night from Flemish Cap, with 240,000 pounds codfish, the largest trip of the season. The first arrival from that fishing ground this year. The receipts of fish Monday were very large: Georges, 190,000 pounds cod; shore, 56,000; Grand Banks, 450,000; 25,000 pounds halibut, 7000 pounds pollock, 10,000 pounds hake, 400 pounds swordfish.

Crop reports from fifty points on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad show that harvesting has begun. All grain has matured soon and the straw is short and not well filled. It will not be more than half a crop, if even that. Flax has suffered badly from the drouth. Local rain at various points made the crops some better. Corn stands up well against the drouth and is growing rapidly, but is being damaged by the dry weather.

Roscoe C. Williams, aged 12, employed on the farm of W. W. Hallinback, at Great Bennington, Mass., was dragged to death by a colt, which he was leading to pasture Friday afternoon. The boy was found by some haymakers almost dead, with scalp torn off, neck broken, skull crushed and the body mangled almost beyond recognition. The marks around the boy's body leads to the conclusion that he tied the halter around himself in order to hold the colt.

A terrific hail and wind storm, Friday night, moved in a path from three to four miles wide through the country ten miles southwest of Kankanto, Ill. Every kind of vegetation in the storm's path was destroyed. Luxuriant fields of corn six feet high and oats and timothy were mowed down to and even beaten into the ground. Windows were broken and houses and barns unroofed. Adam Fritz was killed by lightning and Kate Shannon badly injured.

Geo. Wm. Young has returned from an extended trip of inspection through Minnesota and Dakota. He reports an extremely unfavorable state of affairs in those parts. In an interview he said that the wheat yield will not be over a half crop, owing to the drouth. The crop is short, straw very spotted and thin, with very short heads. The oat crop is looking worse than the wheat, many fields being so short that they will not be harvested. Many flax fields are worthless. Corn is looking fair.

Extensive forest fires at Romeo, Wisconsin, have burned seven dwelling houses, two warehouses, a saw mill, a planing mill, 8,000,000 feet of lumber and 5,000,000 shingles. The loss will be $130,000. Insurance about $60,000. Sixty men are thrown out of employment and 27 families left destitute. The origin of the fire is still unknown but it is supposed to have caught from a locomotive spark. The woods south of Romeo are all on fire and many summer homes are out fighting the flames. Van Haste's mills and buildings are totally destroyed. The loss aggregates about $100,000.

Among the letters received from the wrecked steamer Oregon, was one for Mrs. Margaret Craig Crawford of Newark, N. J., containing a notification of a legacy from the estate of her aunt in Scotland. Mrs. Crawford received a stroke of paralysis two years ago and has ever since been a pensioner on the Bureau of Associated Charities. The arrival of the letter, which had been given up as lost, was a God-send to her in her present straightened circumstances. A peculiar circumstance about the letter was that the address of a letter to Charles Latimer, of Cleveland, had been transferred by the action of the sea to the envelope of Mrs. Crawford's letter. Mr. Latimer also received his letter.

A frightful increase in mortality among the infants in New York city has alarmed the health authorities. Out of a total of 1111 deaths last week, 683 were of children under 5, the excess over the same week last year being 141, and over last week 203. Saturday there were 221 deaths, 70 per cent. of them being children under 5, the highest record for two years. The greatest proportion of infant deaths is in the tenement house districts. In former years the city has employed a corps of physicians and inspectors to make daily tours through these districts for the purpose of giving free advice and prescriptions and to see that the sanitary arrangements were good. This year a freak of municipal economy cut off the $10,000 appropriation for this service and it has been abandoned.

Maine Agricultural News.

—St. Albans Grange with less than forty members, with commendable pluck and zeal, have erected and completed a building for a home of their own, at an expense of about $1000 and all paid for.

—The Grangers of South Lewiston did a generous thing for one of their brethren, Wm. T. Kirby, who is confined to his house by sickness. Enough of them to run two mowing machines came up with their teams and cut his hay one day, and the next day put it into his barn.

—Mr. A. Pease, Appleton, has seven sheep from which he has this year raised 15 lambs, none dropped till March, worth $4.65 each, all but one having been sold at that price. The sheep sheared about 6 lbs. of unwashed wool each, sold for 21 cents a pound, making the gross receipts from the seven sheep about $79 or something more than $11 a head. The same sheep raised 14 lambs last year.

—My hay is all under cover, and of the very best quality and in good order. No rain during the time of cutting, and about ¼ less than last season. Not a grasshopper seen in the field during the time of cutting. Apples that showed a few weeks ago more than the trees could hold up, when matured, have fallen off so that only a fair crop is now shown. I had commenced to thin out some of my trees but the season has done it. We had a small rain Saturday and Saturday night, the sun and wind has taken most of it up; it is very dry times and streams very low; pastures drying up. S. DILL.

Phillips.

—MAINE HAY CROP. A correspondent of the *Boston Journal* estimates the Maine hay crop, this year as 1,354,192 tons, an increase of 291,012 tons over last year. By counties the estimate is as follows:

	Condition.	Probable yield in tons.
Androscoggin	100	50,447
Aroostook	100	74,357
Cumberland	100	87,004
Franklin	95	64,167
Hancock	97	39,859
Kennebec	100	113,065
Knox	93	32,994
Lincoln	100	44,178
Oxford	97	80,624
Penobscot	92	127,709
Piscataquis	95	37,551
Sagadahoc	87	22,016
Somerset	93	87,954
Waldo	90	78,193
Washington	95	38,349
York	100	76,339

These figures may need some modification, as the dry, hot weather of the last few weeks has shortened the crop considerably in the several sections. The Androscoggin crop is believed to be rather over-estimated. Other crops are also affected by the drought, but on the whole, the farmers have little reason to complain this year. The land under cultivation in this State is growing richer than poorer under good cultivation, and larger and better crops are raised. One of the worse pests the farmer now has to encounter is the ox-eyed daisy, and the early cutting of the grass, ere the seeds of this plants have time to ripen, their seeds will, it is hoped, prove some check upon the increase of this weed.

Editor's Table.

SPUN FROM FACT. By Pansy. Boston: D. Lothrop & Co. Price, $1.50. Anything that Pansy writes is sure of readers, no matter what her subject or whom she addresses. The story as told is that of a young girl, Jeannie Bartlett, who through a long and painful illness became, as it was supposed, crippled for life. From time to time stories came to her of the miraculous cures effected by prayer, and a hope grows up in her that even her case may not be beyond help. A time is set for a season of united prayer in the sick room. The friends gather about her in the large arm chair in which she has been placed. One sings, friend by friend, the hymns dear to her and at the close, the invalid full of faith, and endowed with a new and wonderful strength, rises to her feet and walks with a firm step across the floor. It is no temporary cure; her strength remains, and from that time forth she is whole and well.

THE BUBBLING TEAPOT. By Lizzie W. Champney. Boston: D. Lothrop & Co. Price $1.25. The girl who doesn't thoroughly enjoy the story of the curious experiences of Little Flossy Tangleskein must be a very dull girl indeed. Mrs. Champney is one of the most delightful of writers for young people and her *All Around a Palette* and *Sky Gardens* have become accepted standards in juvenile literature. THE BUBBLING TEAPOT is in our way of thinking better than either of them. It is not a fairy story, and yet it is the next thing to it.

THE LAW OF FIELD SPORTS. A summary of the rules of law affecting American sportsmen. By Geo. Putnam Smith, of the New York bar. Published by O. Judd Co., 751 Broadway, N. Y. Price $1.00. Amid the confusion that exists concerning the interpretation of law, the advent of this little volume will be hailed with joy by the sportsman, as it gives succinct statement of the rules of law affecting hunting and fishing, and is a valuable addition to the outfit and in the pursuit of game.

HOW THEY LEARNED HOUSEWORK. By Christina Goodwin. Boston: D. Lothrop & Co. Price 75 cents. Let the girls from fourteen to sixteen years of age, send for this book, as it gives them an insight into just that part of housekeeping, young people are capable of taking a hand in—sweeping, dusting, bed-making, sewing, plain cooking, with experiments in preserve and jelly making.

SCRIPTURES. Hebrew and Christian, arranged and edited for young readers as an introduction to the study of the bible. Vol. I. Price, $1.50. This volume claims the attention of the reader from the Creation to the Exile. The story is told in the captivating words of the Bible, but with considerable condensation and rearrangement. Explanations are made which utilize the best results of critical scholarship. Published by G. P. Putnams' Sons, New York, and for sale in Augusta by J. Frank Pierce.

THE STORY OF GERMANY. This is another interesting volume in the series of "The Story of the Nations." Published by G. P. Putnams' Sons, New York. Price $1.50, and sold in Augusta, by J. Frank Pierce. The story of such a people as the Germans could not fail to possess intense interest for any one, and this is told in such a fascinating style that it cannot fail to have a multitude of readers.

We have received from the above publishers two volumes, "The Traveller's Series"—Up the Rhine, and Canoeing in Kanuckin—refreshing, restful reading for this summer weather. Price, 50 cents for each volume. For sale by J. Frank Pierce, Augusta.

The numbers of *The Living Age* for the weeks ending July 3d and 10th, contain Genius and Precocity, and John Webster, Nineteenth Century; Contemporary Review and Thought in France, the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood: a Fight for Art, and In Osman Digna's Garden Contemporary; the Laird of Redgauntlet, and Mystery and Romance, Macmillan; a Court Chapiain, and Gustave Dore, Temple Bar; Boys' Blunderr, Cornhill; An Original of the Last Century, Belgravia; Mr. Ruskin's "May Days," Fortnightly; Good Friday Customs, the Mexican Penitentes, and King Louis of Bavaria, Spectator; A Russian Experiment in Home Rule, St James's; The U. S. Geological Survey, Nature; The Century Letter, Academy; The Currents of the Atlantic Ocean, Le Génie Civil; with installments of "Black Crows," Doctor Edith," and "A Sicilian Doctor," and Poetry.

The Number for July 3d begins a new volume.

For fifty-two numbers of sixty-four large pages each (or more than 3,300 pages a year) the subscription ($8) is low while for $10.50 the publishers offer to send any one of the American $4.00 monthlies or weeklies with *The Living Age* for a year, both postpaid. Littell & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

SECRETARY BAYARD. Representative Boutelle has received the following reply to his request that the State Department give immediate attention to the statement telegraphed him from Eastport, that American boats were driven away from St. Andrews, N. B., on Friday by a Dominion cruiser:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, July 10, 1886.
Hon. C. A. Boutelle, House of Representatives.

Dear Sir.—I have just received your telegram of this date stating that you had a dispatch from Eastport, Me., that American boats after herring for sardines, at St. Andrews, N. B., were driven away by the Dominion cruiser Middleton, with the announcement that no American boats will be allowed to take herring for any purpose, and to this you invoke the immediate attention of this department.

On the 2d of June last, you called at this department in company with Senator Hale of Maine, and then drew my attention to a similar threat of interference with the purchase of small herring for canning as sardines from the Canadian weirs. On the same day I made a representation of the alleged threats to the British minister at the capital, and drew the attention to the alleged violation of lawful commercial intercourse between British subjects in Canada and citizens of the United States. I was in hopes that further interference with a recognized and legitimate trade would be prevented, but will again address the British minister upon the subject.

It will assist materially in all such cases of alleged violation of commercial rights if accurate and full statements of all the facts in each case are procured and forwarded to this department, accompanied by affidavits. A great deal of loose rumor and sensational statement would be thus disposed of, and a tangible basis be laid for claims for compensation by the injured parties.

I have the honor to be very respectfully yours, (Signed) T. F. BAYARD.

Mr. Boutelle has telegraphed to Eastport requesting that full and accurate sworn statements of the interference complained of be prepared and forwarded to the Department of State.

The Markets.

Report of Union Stock Market.

[Specially Reported for the Maine Farmer.]

WATERTOWN, July 13, 1886.

Names of Drovers.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Veals.
L. N. Richards, Fort Fairfield,	6	0	0
A. P. Libby, Fort Fairfield,	8	0	9
Jacob Weller, Bangor,	17	0	7
F. M. Rogers, Holden,	19	0	13
J. G. Hight, Athens,	15	0	12
I. C. Libby, Burnham,	30	60	70
J. H. Gilman, Monmouth,	1	11	15
B. W. Harriman, Readfield,			13
D. Libby, Waterville,	2	0	4
W. P. Libby, Troy,	5	0	13

Market for beef dull. Western beef ¼ cent lower, while New England beef remains unchanged. Some grass fed cattle noted, for which there is a moderate demand. Oxen bring, the best, 8 cents dressed weight; common, 6½ to 7 cents; small cattle 5 to 7 cents. Some more call for cows on account of dry weather here, which shortens up the flow of milk; range of prices $35 to $50. Veal calves sell better; less on sale; bring 3 to 5½ live. Sheep and lambs more plenty and a little lower. Sheep bring 2½ to 5 cents, lambs 4 to 7 cents live.

SALES.

L. N. Richards sold two steers at 4 cts. live, weighing 1850 lbs., one Springer at $35. A. P. Libby sold one choice Dutch cow at $40, one Hereford Springer at $40, calves at 5½ cents live weight. Jacob Weller sold milkers at $35 each, two steers at 3½ cents live, weighing 1500 lbs. F. M. Rogers sold 6 fat steers, averaging 1000 pounds at 5 cents, two choice cows at $40 each. J. G. Hight sold two oxen, best pair from Maine, estimated to dress 2000 lbs., at $160, 3 Springers at $130 the lot, 13 calves averaging 125 lbs. each, at 5½ cts. I. C. Libby sold 57 lambs, averaging 60 lbs. each, at 6¼ cents, 10 extra cows at $40 each. W. P. Libby sold two cows for $60, one for $50. J. Libby sold a fine Dutch Springer at $50.

REMARKS.

Dry weather prevails and Massachusetts soon drys up, many sections cry out drought. All done haying, a good crop harvested in fine condition. Cattle prospects are fair, store cattle will be wanted here next fall. In talking with Mr. Swift of the firm of Swift Brothers, probably the largest cattle dealers in the world, he expressed the opinion that beef will not be much higher, says cattle are fairly plenty in the West. To give our farmers some idea of the extent of this cattle firm's transactions, I would say to them, Mr. Swift says he killed last year 420,000 cattle, employing in Chicago 1200 men, and half as many more in his 100 beef houses scattered over the New England and Middle States. It will be readily seen that dealers to distribute this vast amount of beef, employing 40 steam engines. Mr. Swift says he checks out of his bank over $30,000,000 per year to carry on this immense business. He also exports over 50,000 cattle per season. This is all managed principally by one hand. This same firm built and own a slaughter house in Houlton, Maine, said to cost $20,000, and they dress and forward to Boston market 75 carcasses of beef per week, 20,000 to 40,000 sheep each year, besides killing in Chicago 4,000 to 5,000 sheep per week. This immense business is said to run very smooth, with very little friction, showing the power of an organization controlled by a master mind. I. C. LIBBY.

Brighton Cattle Market.

BOSTON, TUESDAY, July 13.

Amount of live stock at market—Cattle 1858, Sheep and lambs 6,920, Swine 14,850, Horses 160, number of Western Cattle 1736, Northern Cattle 122, Veals 210.

Prices of Beef Cattle per 100 lbs. live weight—Extra quality $5 62½@6 00; first quality $5 00@6 37½; second quality $4 00@4 87½; third quality $3 37½@3 87½, poorest grades of coarse Oxen, Bulls, &c., $3 00@3 25.

Brighton Hides 7¼c. per lb.
Brighton Tallow 3c. per lb.
Country Hides 6½@6 c. per lb.
Country Tallow 1¾@2¼c. per lb.
Calf Skins 9@10c. per lb.
Lamb Skins 40@60c. each.
Dairy Skins 50@50c. each.
Sheared Skins 25@40c. each.

SALES OF CATTLE.

By Number.	lbs live wt.	Price per 100 wt.	Live wt.	Average wt.
A. N. Monroe	10	5 50	"	1374
do	20	5 55	"	1476
do	18	5 50	"	1425
do	25	5 60	"	1431
do	18	5 25	"	1180
do	8	5 20	"	1380
C. Leavitt	8	5 60	"	1330
do	6	5 40	"	1225
do	5	5 40	"	1100
Farrell & McFlynn	4	5 75	"	1252
do	8	5 35	"	1217
do	4	5 65	"	1360
do	12	5 50	"	1174
do	17	5 50	"	1260
do	10	5 60	"	1250
do	12	5 37½	"	1200

The trade for retailers was fair at a decline in prices of 10@15 per 100 lbs. from those obtained one week ago for the same grades of Cattle, those suitable for the butchers' trade being sold mostly at prices ranging from $5 20@5 75 per 100 lbs live weight. The larger portion of the best grades of beeves were intended for the export trade.

Sheep and Lambs—From the West the supply for the week were all owned by butchers, Westers Sheep costing from 4½@4½c, and Lambs from 6½@7½c per lb. live weight landed at the slaughter houses.

Swine—Western Fat Hogs are costing butchers from 4½@5c per lb, live weight. In our number we include all the Western Fat Hogs brought in over the several railroads for the past week, all being owned by butchers.

Boston Market.

BOSTON, TUESDAY, July 13.

FLOUR. There has been a firm market for flour and the demand shows some improvement. Wisconsin spring wheat flours have been selling at $5 10@5 25, and Minnesota at $5 10@5 35 per bbl. Winter wheat patents at $5 10@5 30 per bbl. Roller flour is strong and in fair demand, sales of 1000 bbls. at $4 75@5 00 per bbl. Michigan straight grades are firm with sales of medium at $3 75@4; choice at $4 10@4 25, common at $3 45@3 70; Western superfine at $3 10@3 35, and Minnesota bakers at $4 10@4 35 per bbl. Southern is steady at $3 25@4 60 for fresh ground, and $3 for granulated. Rye Flour is firmer and selling at $3 37½@3 62½ per bbl. Oat Meal is quiet at $4 50@4 60 for fine, and $5 65@5 95 for cut.

CORN MEAL. There is a moderate demand for corn, and sales of steamer yellow at 49½@50c; steamer mixed at 48@48½c; and no grade at 40@46c per bush, as to quality. Bags are wanted, and are quote fancy clipped 46@47; barley at 45@46c; No. 3 white at 41½c; No. 3 white at 40½c, and mixed at 37@40c per bush., as to quality. Bran rules steady, with sales of spring at $14@14 50, and winter at $13 75@16; Fine Feed and Middlings at $14 50@18, and Cotton Seed Meal at $23 on spot, and $21 75 to arrive.

PROVISIONS. Pork rules steady and in fair demandwith sales of old mess at $10 50 and new at $11 50@12; extra prime at $10 50@11, and clear and backs at $13 50@15 per bbl. Beef is in steady demand; we quote mess and extra at $ 50@9 50, and plate and family at 10@11 per bbl. Lard is firm at 7½@7¼c per lb. Smoked Hams are firm at 12½@13½c. as to quality.

PRODUCE. Butter is in moderate demand, but prices are firm. We quote extra Western creamery at 16@18c, Northern and Eastern creamery at 17@19c, Northern dairy at 16@17c, Western dairy at 14@15c, Imitation creamery at 11@15c, and ladle packed at 9@12c per lb. Cheese is in fair demand and firm, with sales of New York and Vermont extra at 8c, fancy at 8½c, Western at 7½@7¾c, and common grades at 4@6½c per lb, as to quality. Eggs are firmer and meet with a good demand, and we notice sales of extra Eastern at 15½@16c, fancy at 16½@17c, New York extras at 15@15½c, Western at 14c, and Nova Scotia at 14½@15c per doz. Beans are higher and firm, with sales of choice Vermont at $1 75@1 80; New York at $1 60@1 70; and medium at $1 45@1 50 per bush, including hand picked. Canada peas are steady but quiet at 65@65c, as to quality. New potatoes are selling mostly at $2@2 25, with some fancy lots at $2 37@3 50 per bbl. Evaporated dried Apples are in good demand at 7@8¼c per lb. Spring Chickens are easier and in fair demand at 25@28c for choice lots, and 18@20c for common to good.

HAY. The market for Prime Hay, and choice lots have sold at $18@18 50 and medium at $15@17 per ton. Rry Straw rules quiet at $19@20 per ton.

Bangor Produce Market.

WEDNESDAY, July 14.

APPLES—Out of the market.
BEANS—Yellow Eyes, $1 35@1 40 per bush.; hand picked Pea, $1 70@1 75.
BUTTER—Best, 16@18c. per lb.; fair to good, 13@15c.
EGGS—13@14c per doz.
GRAIN—Oats, 40@44c per bush; corn 55@58c.
HAY—$12@13 per ton; best bales, $12@14.
POTATOES—Best quality per bushel, 45@55c.
PROVISIONS—Pork, round hog per lb., 5@5½c.; fowl per lb., 10@12c. Spring lambs 20c.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, July 13.

United States Bonds,	3's,	(reg.)	100¾
"	"	New 4s, (reg.)	126
"	"	(coup.)	126
"	"	New 4½'s (reg.)	113¾
"	"	4½ (coup.)	113¾
"	"	Pacific 1sts,	113½

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP should always be used for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhœa. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

Augusta City Market.

[CORRECTED WEEKLY FOR THE MAINE FARMER.]

WEDNESDAY, July 14.

APPLES—$1 00@1 25 per bbl.; dried, 3@3c per lb.; evaporated 6@7c per lb.
BEANS—Pea beans $1 75@1 85; Yellow Eyes $1 40@1 50.
BUTTER—Good Firkin Butter sells for 14@16c; Ball Butter 16@18c.
Cheese—9½@10c.
COTTON SEED MEAL—$1 50 per cwt.
EGGS—15c per dozen.
FLOUR—St. Louis $6 00@6 50; Patent 7 00@7 50.
GRAIN—Corn 60@62c; oats 40@45; barley 75c. Rye $1 00.
HAY—$15 00@17 00.
STRAW—Loose $6@7; pressed $6@10.
HONEY—Choice Aroostook 16@18c.
HIDES AND SKINS—Ox hides over 90 lbs, 7—c; bulls and stags, 5c; calf skins, 10c.
LIME AND CEMENT—Lime $7 10 per cask; cement $2 00.
LARD—Tierce 6¾@7; Dom. 7¼@8c.
MEAL—Corn 60@62; rye 85@90.
PRODUCE—Potatoes, 45@50c per bu; cabbages, 2c per lb; squash, 3c per lb; turnips, 40c per bushel; beets, 40c per bu.
PROVISIONS—Clear salt pork 6¼@7c; beef per side 8@8½c; ham 10½@11c; fowls 10@12c; spring lambs 13c; mutton 8@9c; veal 7@8c; spring chickens 20@25c; Turkeys 16@18c; round hog 5½@6c.
SHORTS—13½c per lb.

Portland Market.

WEDNESDAY, July 14.

APPLES—Green apples out of the market; evaporated 7@8c per lb.
BUTTER—15@16 for choice family; Vermont, 18@20c per lb; creamery, 18@20c.
BEANS—Pea, $1 60@1 75; Yellow Eyes, $1 40@1 65.
CHEESE—Maine and Vermont Factory, new, 8@9c; N. Y. Factory, 8@9c.
COAL—Stove and Egg, $7 00@7 50.
FLOUR—Superfine, $3 25@3 50; Spring X and XX, $4 50@5 50; Michigan Winter X and XX, $4 87@5 12; Roller Michigan, $5 25@5 50; St. Louis Winter Patents, $5 25@5 50.
FISH—Cod Shore, $2 75@3 00; bank, $2 00@2 25; Scaled herring per box, 16@20c; Mackerel per bbl, Shore No 1, $19 00@21 00.
GRAIN—Corn, bag lots, 52@53; oats, 42@44c; cotton seed, car lots, $23 00@24 00; cotton seed, bag lots, $24 00@25 00; sacked bran, car lots, $17 00@19 00; sacked bran, bag lots, $19 00@20 00; middlings, car lots, $18 00@23 00; middlings, bag lots, $20 00@24 00.
LARD—Per tierce, 6¾@6¾c per lb; per tub, 6¾@6¾c; pail, 6¾@7¼c.
PROVISIONS—Fowl, 10@14c; eggs, 13@14c; potatoes, 60c per bush, new potatoes $2.87@$3.00; extra beef, $9 00@9 50; pork backs, $15 00@15 50; clear, $12 00@13 50; hams, 12½@15c; covered, 13@13½c.

Chicago Live Stock Market.

TUESDAY, July 13.

CATTLE—Receipts, 8,900 head; shipments, 1800; steady; shipping steers at $3 75@4 25; stockers and feeders at $2 25@4 00; cows, bulls and mixed, $2 50@3 70; bulk at $2 75@3 25; through Texans—

HOGS—Receipts, 14,000; shipments, 4500; higher; rough and mixed at 4 45@4 75; packing and shipping, 4 70@4 95; light 4 45@4 95; skips, 3 75@4 25.

SHEEP—Receipts, 1000; shipments, 200; higher; natives at 2 00@4 40; Western at 2 75@3 25; Texans 1 90@3 00. Lambs 1 25@3 00.

Wool Market

TUESDAY, July 13.

There continues to be a good demand for both domestic and foreign, and prices are firm and advancing.

A Week's Sojourn in Maine.

The Aroostook Exploration Party.

The arrangements for the Aroostook Exploration Party are being rapidly made by Hon. Fred Atwood of Winterport. The following will be the programme of the trip as arranged:—

Monday, August 2d—Leave Boston by special car attached to 9 A. M. express train, via Eastern Division of Boston and Maine Railroad. Arrive in Portland 12.25 P. M. This train, however, being the Bar Harbor fast express, will not run into Portland depot, but will pass round the Y, and thence to Bangor, over the river division of the Maine Central Railroad, arriving in Bangor at 4.40 P. M., where the night will be spent. The headquarters here will be at the Bangor House.

Tuesday, August 3d—The party after being augmented by a few friends from Bangor and other points, will leave Bangor by special train with cars running through to destination are which will be at the disposal of the party until they return to Bangor, reaching Vanceboro for dinner, which will be furnished at depot dining rooms, at 50 cents each; thence on over the New Brunswick Railway to Caribou, where the night will be spent.

Wednesday, August 4th—Will be spent in looking over the farms and enterprises at Caribou. All desiring to visit New Sweden can do so and not to exceed one dollar for transportation. Some time during the afternoon the party will go on to Presque Isle and explore that place, and dinner may be procured at Caribou or Presque Isle, a fact not yet decided upon, and the night spent in either place, as parties may elect. Expense of entertainment at Caribou, $1.50.

Thursday, August 5th—Leave Presque Isle by special train after breakfast for Houlton, the shire town and county town of the county, resting there for dinner, and stopping in Houlton through the balance of the day and night. Entertainment at Presque Isle, $1.50. At Houlton, as well as other places en route, it is expected the party will meet citizens and others interested in the county's welfare, and discuss its needs and prospects in a thoroughly social manner.

Friday, August 6th—Leave Houlton at 7.35 A. M., connecting at Vanceboro' with Flying Yankee for Bangor, arriving there at 1.20 P. M. where the party will break up. Those desiring to do so can continue on to Portland or Boston, by same train, arriving in Portland at 5.45 P. M. and Boston 9.30 P. M., or as the tickets will be good until August 11th, parties can remain in Bangor, or take in the resorts near that point. Arrangements have been made for parties holding these tickets to procure excursion tickets from Bangor to Bar Harbor or Moosehead Lake and return at one fare. Entertainment at Houlton $1.50. Invitations are being extended to many prominent citizens of Maine and Massachusetts.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. E. L. NORCROSS. A *Bangor Whig* reporter had a short interview yesterday with Mr. E. L. Norcross, of Manchester, the noted breeder of Fearnaught trotters, who is stopping in Bangor. Mr. Norcross is quite enthusiastic over the prospects of the horse interest in this State this season. He says there are more fast horses here than ever before, and this fact is shown by the late races at Lewiston, where there was such a gathering of speedy animals. Mr. Norcross has a great stallion all bred from native stock, the predominating blood being the Knox and Drew. Mr. Norcross is pleased with the track improvements at Maplewood, and says that some phenomenal trotting will be seen here this fall at the Fair.

He will arrive at Bangor in August with several fine horses some of which will be entered for the races. The great stallion Fearnaught, Jr., which carried away the stallion prize at last year's fair is in fine condition. The colts sired by this horse are everywhere proving themselves to be much faster than ever the best sanguine of their owners expected. The handsome colt St. Valentine which attracted so much attention here last fall still continues to look very promising. Mr. Norcross is driving him some, and his gait is most satisfactory to the admirers of the animal.

Sontag, the fast Fearnaught mare owned by Mr. Norcross, has been in Bangor for two weeks under the training of Mr. Thomas McAloon. She is being driven on the road, where she is showing up well and will be taken to the track as soon as the track is in condition. Sontag ought to be very fast this summer.

Items and Incidents.

A Kansas emigrant made the trip all the way to Los Angeles, Cal., in a wagon with his wife and children.

The Terrible Drain

which scrofula has upon the system must be arrested, and the blood must be purified, or serious consequences will ensue. For purifying and vitalizing effects, Hood's Sarsaparilla has been found superior to any other preparation. It expels every trace of impurity from the blood, and bestows new life and vigor upon every function of the body, enabling it to entirely overcome disease.

An Ashton (Dak.) woman, last year raised 800 bushels of wheat and 400 bushels of oats on her farm, and she did all the work herself.

Ministers, Lawyers, Teachers, and others whose occupation gives but little exercise, should use Carter's Little Liver Pills for torpid Liver and billousness. One is a d

Poetry.

Jane Reed.

BY BAYARD TAYLOR.

"If I could forget," she said, "forget and begin again!
We see so dull at the time, and, looking back, so plain;
There's a quiet that's worse, I think, than many a spoken strife,
And it's wrong that one mistake should change the whole of a life.

"There's John, forever the same, so steady, sober, and mild;
Perhaps my ways are harsh, but if he would seem to care
There'd be fewer swallowed words and a lighter load to bear.

Here, Cherry!—she's found me out, the calf I raised in the spring,
And a likely heifer she's grown, the foolish, soft-eyed thing!
Just the even color I like, without a dapple or speck,—
O, Cherry, bend down your head, and let me cry on your neck!

"The poor dumb beast she is, she never can know nor tell,
And it seems to do me good, the very shame of the spell:
So old a woman, and hard, and Joel so old a man,—
But the thoughts of the old go on as the thoughts of the young began!

"It's guessing that wastes the heart far worse than the surest fate:
If I knew he had thought of me I could quietly work and wait;
And then when either, at last, on a bed of death should lie,
Why, one might speak the truth, and the other hear and die!"

She leaned on the heifer's neck: the dry leaves fell from the boughs,
And over the sweet late grass of the meadow strayed the cows:
The golden dodder meshed the cardinal flower by the rill;
There was autumn haze in the air, and sunlight low on the hill.
"I've somehow missed my time," she said to herself, and sighed:
"What girls are free to hope, a steady woman must hide.
But the need outstays the chance: it makes me cry and laugh
To think that the only thing I can talk to now is a calf!"

A step came down from the hill: she did not turn, or rise;
There was something in her heart that saw without the eyes.
She heard the foot delay, as doubting to stay or go:
"Is the heifer for sale?" he said. She sternly answered, "No!"

She lifted her head as she spake; their eyes a moment met,
And her heart repeated the words, "If I could only forget!"
He turned a little away, but her lowered eyes could see
His hand, as he picked the bark from the trunk of a hickory-tree.

"Why can't we be friendly, Jane?" his words came, strange and slow;
"You seem to bear me a grudge, so long, and so long ago!
You were gay and free with the rest, but always so shy of me!
That, before my freedom came, I saw that it couldn't be.

"Joel!" she sat all she cried, as their glances met again.
And a sudden rose effaced her pallor of age and pain.
He picked at the hickory bark: "It's a curious thing to say;
But I'm lonely since Phebe died, and the girls are married away.

"That's why those thoughts come back: I'm a little too old for pride,
And I never could understand how love could be all one side:
'Twould answer itself, I thought, and time would show me how;
But it didn't come so, then, and it doesn't seem so now!"

"Joel, it came so, then!"—and her voice was thick with tears:
"A hope for a single day, and a bitter shame for years!"
He snapped the ribbon of bark; he turned from the hickory tree;
"Jane, look me once in the face, and say that you thought of me!"

She looked, and feebly laughed: "It's a comfort to know the truth,
Though the chance was thrown away in the blind mistake of youth.
And a greater comfort, Jane," he said, with a tender smile,
"To find the chance you have lost, and keep it a little while."

She rose as he spake the words: the petted heifer thrust
Her muzzle between the twain, with an animal's strange mistrust:
But over the creature's neck he drew her to his breast:
"A horse is never so old but it pulls with another beast!"

"It's enough to know," she said; "to remember, not forgot!"
"Nay, nay; for the rest of life we'll pay each other's debt!"
She had no will to resist, so kindly was she drawn,
And she sadly said at last, "But what will become of John?"

Our Story Teller.

For the Maine Farmer.

HER IDEAL.

BY LURA BELL.

"My ideal woman would walk the path of duty, even if inclination led another way." The speaker was a girl of medium height and her otherwise quiet face was flushed, while her gray eyes kindled with earnestness as she raised them to meet the laughing glance of her room-mate, who sat opposite in the negligent pose, which school girls will assume in spite of "physiology" and "gymnastics." Perhaps your ideal might do that heroic thing," rejoined the owner of the laughing eyes, "and miss lots of fun, and no end of happiness. But, seriously, Millie, how many girls of this generation would really make duty a choice? I know some do their duty, but is it not under compulsion? I believe in doing anything heartily or not at all. Would it not be better to follow inclination, sincerely, than to set up to be a saint without any leadings that way? There! that's a long speech for me to make, so treat it accordingly."

"Your 'speech' requires some analysis," said Millie, "and I do not deny that duty should be done heartily. But I still think if it be truly done, the doer will not miss of happiness. And I know, Nettie, you are not such a heretic as you talk," she added playfully.

"Ah! I am no saint," replied Nettie, shaking her head. "But, there goes the bell," and she hastily clasped her friend's hand, and side by side the two left the room, and vanished in the direction of the recitation hall.

Millie Kingston and Nettie Ray were school girls at Eastham, and this was their last term. They were soon to go forth into the outside world as "finished" young ladies. Frequently in their room together, some bits of news or a new view of history or fiction, gave rise to discussions similar to that which introduces them to us.

Even if lessons were neglected for a brief period, who can tell but these discussions were more helpful in the development of ideas than the much praised "mathematics?"

Just budding into womanhood, beginning to take more serious views of life than mere children, while yet unacquainted with its cares, their conversation sometimes took a serious turn; and they talked of the future, as school girls will.

Millie was much the more serious of the two, though she was a few months younger than Nettie. Perhaps the circumstances surrounding each, was in part the cause of this difference. While Nettie, with her proud, frank and generous nature, was surrounded with luxury, the idolized child of a wealthy city merchant, Millie was the child of a poor, though intelligent farmer, equally beloved by her stalwart father and invalid mother, but obliged from early childhood to assume many cares and practice sundry economies, wholly unknown to one in Nettie's station.

These differences did not hinder the two girls from forming an enthusiastic friendship.

The frankness of Nettie quite won the reserved Millie; and as Nettie's own pride taught her to avoid wounding the sensitive nature of her friend, Nellie became more confidial with her than with any she had ever been with any one in her life before. Free to speak of the past, of the present with its round of duties, and the future—prosy enough in outline; but where is the girl of eighteen who will not color and glow at times into the details? Yes, her future seemed prosy enough, compared with that of her room-mate. She was to return to a quiet, old brown farm-house at the outskirts of a small village, which reminded one of Goldsmith's,

"Sweet Auburn! Loveliest village of the plain,"

to be the help and comfort of a feeble mother and a father once strong and brave, but sadly broken down by apoplexy and many sorrows. His sister, a maiden lady of forty, had long been with them, and wielded the housekeeping utensils with precision and neatness. It was not to be expected that she would yield the sceptre to Millie, though she would expect her to work "with her hands." She looked with distrust upon the superior education accorded "that child," as most likely to unfit her for "hard work." However, Millie's parents were determined to give her these advantages, even at a sacrifice. They recognized the power of education, and they early perceived that Millie possessed unusual talent. She was their last and dearest child. Four small graves in the village graveyard held the other treasures; and thus Millie became the centre of their hopes and ambition.

And even aunt Mary was proud of her, when, after the usual leave-taking—after the essay and the diploma and the tears, Millie came home, a dignified, fine looking young lady.

Aunt Mary made her favorite gems for tea, and would not let her wash the dishes. Her father listened with delight to her simple songs, and praised her sweet voice. Even pussy seemed glad to see her home again. But the sweetest hour of all was in her mother's room—her pretty, delicate mother, who seldom left that sunny room. Before retiring to her own chamber, Millie spent an hour talking of her school-days, pouring forth her simple narrative into a true mother's ear. She then, for the first time, realized how hard had been the parting to that invalid mother, whose existence must, of necessity, be monotonous. Yet, for her child's sake, she had not complained; she had kept herself young, and even girlish; so that often Millie appeared older than her mother.

In fact, Mrs. Kingston was but seventeen years older than her daughter; and so small and slight, that the slender Millie could lift her with ease.

Millie talked with girlish enthusiasm, until all woman's weary look, she sought her own room, with a mother's blessing ringing in her ears.

It soon became evident to Millie that much tact and patience were required in her new position. Aunt Mary did not like to see her idle; or, what, to her, was the same, employed with her favorite sketching.

Moreover, if Millie attempted to help, she found it a hard task to suit her aunt, and finally contented herself with waiting upon herself and mother.

Even here, the trouble did not cease; for the faithful nurse of twenty year's standing, looked with jealous eye upon the young interloper.

When this jealous temper once obtains foothold in the mind, everything becomes distorted. As in looking at your own image in a silver spoon bowl, whichever way you turn it, the image becomes broader or longer than it is, or even becomes inverted; so in the jealous mind, its own image becomes hopelessly misshapen. The mirror of the soul becomes no longer truthful, but full of fallacies; in fact a series of convexities and concavities.

Millie's time of trial had now fairly begun. One by one the golden dreams of her school-days vanished, in the monotonies of every-day life.

Her thoughtful face gathered shadows, and her usually hopeful disposition became clouded.

She might have gone from home as a teacher; but her mother had been so anxious that she should spend the summer at home, and Millie would not complain to her. They had been so long separated, and Millie so loved to care for, and be a companion for the invalid, she dreaded the very thought of parting.

She had been at home several weeks, when one day she bounded into her mother's room, with a burst of her old enthusiasm.

"O, mother! I have something to do right here, without leaving you!"

"Yes, I know you have plenty to do for your indolent mother, dear; but what is the new project?"

"Why, Miss Corson, the village teacher, has resigned and gone home, and I am offered the position. And if I suit them, I can have the fall term, too," exclaimed the eager girl. Her mother's face grew grave, but she made no reply.

"Now, mammie, what is it?" said Millie. "Don't you like the plan? I shall board here, and toast your bread and make your tea just the same; and you don't need a great girl sitting around all day, and getting in aunt Mary's way," and she came to her mother's chair and, laid her face on her mother's shoulder, and sitting upon a low stool, put her head in "mammie's" lap.

"But can't you be happy a little while with mother, and let the work alone? I fear you are not sufficiently rested from school-work to commence teaching. Don't be too ambitious. Ambition and overwork have made me what I am—a helpless invalid, who can talk but not do anything."

Mrs. Kingston spoke with unusual bitterness. She was beginning to realize that with all her patient cheerfulness, she was not fitted to cope with the independent spirit of her child. The demands of such a nature as Millie's required more than the secluded invalid life had to bestow.

Millie's face become shadowed and troubled. It was a study for a painter, when she lifted her head, and her features gathered firmness and earnestness, at her mother's words. Her love was so expensive, it varied with each transition of thought, as we see sometimes in summer the shadows chasing each other over fields of grain.

"Mother, if this will interfere with your happiness, I will refuse the place. I can have no other reason; my health is perfect; and ambition never will wear me out," she added, with a laugh. Mrs. Kingston could not say that her happiness depended on Millie's consciousness; for she had witnessed some of the annoyances Millie had to bear from her aunt, though no violent temper had yet appeared. It was like the mutterings of distant thunder. The storm was in the air, but manifested in little nameless nothings, more provoking than declared war.

By taking the school, the threatened storm might be averted. So Millie soon obtained her mother's consent, and the matter, and with a less jubilant air, proceeded to find her father. Mr. Kingston was a man of few words. It was the wish of his heart that his daughter should be a teacher, and he readily gave his consent, telling Millie (what she had known before) that he was "proud of her." He had been, in common with many New England farmers, a district school teacher many years. He had an old-fashioned English education, and was a great reader. But of late his eyes had failed him, and he feared a permanent calamity; yet he communicated his fears to no one.

Millie commenced her new duties immediately, and rapidly regained her spirits. She proved herself a good teacher, and the summer passed peacefully away. She was rather proud and wholly delighted, when, at the close of the first term, she drew her first "pay."

It seemed to her that she had no right to be idle, when her father must still work hard to support the family. So she engaged the coming term, and meantime employed much of her vacation in hard work with pencil and brush. Who can tell what glorious visions of fame and fortune filled her heart, as she sat and sketched through the long August Days? A dreamy restlessness came over her, like that of a new fledged robin eager to try his wings. She was divided in her mind between her desire to serve her mother, and her love for this art, which had abode with her from her early childhood, and been nourished at school by superior training.

By the time the fall term was finished, close application at school and unabated study at home, had taken the glow from her cheek and something of the lustre from her eye. She was used to it in a way, as that her "perfect health" would not bear the constant strain. Indeed, as her mother well knew, she was far from strong.

About this time a letter came from Nettie Ray to Millie with a very urgent request that she should spend the winter with her in the city. She enclosed, also, a pleading little note to Mrs. Kingston to "be sure and let Millie come." Millie was half glad and half sorry for the invitation. She feared that in her present state of mind she should be unhappy, and envious of her friend.

At the same time her heart beat faster at the thought of the opportunity for city visits would afford. Of the art galleries and music hall; the chance of meeting the great and cultured. She might even see some of the artists of whom she had read, even, she might of Grecian gods, never thinking of them as flesh and blood!

Most of all, she disliked to leave her mother. But aunt Mary looked upon her with growing disfavor. "It fairly made her homesick," as she said to a confidential friend, "to hear that pale faced chip of a girl go on. Her highfalutin notions about art, was enough to set one crazy."

Did her mother see the conflict in the daughter's mind? Ah! these mothers see more than we give them credit for!

However this may be, she insisted that Millie should go, and made light of the separation; so it was finally decided she should accept the invitation, after Millie had obtained her mother's consent to invite Miss Ray to spend the following summer with her.

It may seem strange that Nettie had not outgrown her school-girl fancy in the round of gayety in which she had been introduced; or that Mrs. Ray should allow her to invite the farmer's daughter to her luxurious home. But Nettie, though impulsive, was not fickle; and she was accustomed to having her own way. An only child, nothing was denied her.

Passing over the unusual journey, the excitement of the meeting, and the two or three weeks of "getting accustomed to things," we find Millie already a city girl, entering with a girlish zest into all the rounds of amusement to which, as her friend's guest, she is introduced. This does not include the halls of the season; for Nettie is not yet "out," and yet there is excitement enough for Millie.

She wonders how it will be after Nettie's party in January, when that young lady will be plunged in the surging sea of fashionable life. Even now, the wardrobe, ample to the verge of lavishness at home, bought with her school money, and made by her own hands, principally, looks strangely insignificant beside Nettie's.

She notices this difference more than she did at school. A pride, which is not a vain one, causes her to resolve that she will go home before the grand party. Meantime, she will enjoy it here.

Among the familiar friends of the family was Milton Seymour, Nettie's cousin. He was a polished man of the world, of about thirty-five years; and very courteous—one of those thoroughly self-possessed beings, whose polished exterior resist oftentimes, the most penetrating character student.

He had travelled much, and was a wealthy gentlemen of leisure, living in the enjoyment of the fortune his father had left to him. With his courtly manners, his Grecian face and form, and his conversational powers, which amounted to genius when he chose to exercise them, what wonden if Millie enjoyed his society?

He was quite attentive to the young country maiden. Most of all, she loved to visit the picture galleries; and fortunately she was permitted to make the acquaintance of an artist, whose pictures she had long admired. He was a genial old gentleman, who sometimes called at the Ray mansion, and after a time (Nettie having revealed the fact that her friend was "a bit of an artist,") Millie was induced to show him some of her work. He gave her much encouragement, while pointing out her faults, which she most wished him to do. He saw in her work unusual originality and force; it needed but the nicety of finish, and the nameless something, time alone and practice will lend to any art. A richer experience that time brings to all hearts, broadens and deepens the channels through which the life is expressed to the world. Millie found life very bright. She visited Mr. B——'s studio several times—some times with Nettie and Mr. Seymour; once or twice with Mr. Ray, who thought Miss Kingston a wonderfully sensible girl.

On one of these occasions she expressed her desire to realize something at once, if possible, and the artist immediately commissioned her to paint some Christmas cards from her own designs. He also offered to give her lessons at a low figure later in the season. She was now all excitement. She was sorely tempted to spend the winter here, as Nettie ardently wished, and thus fulfil the supreme desire of her heart. But the vision of her wardrobe which needed so many accessories, caused her many a sigh of discontent. Despise her not, O, ye strong-minded! You scorn the allurements of dress and fashion. So do we—on paper. But Millie Kingston was—human. Moreover, she was young, and a worshipper of beauty. She liked dainty things. The atmosphere of health suited her well. She liked the refinement and the luxury that wealth brings.

The Rays were aristocratic, yet, withal kindly; and when they saw Millie was well bred and refined, they began to like her cordiality. Notwithstanding many engagements, our heroine finished her cards some time before Christmas; and she wished much to use the money she received for them in making presents to the dear ones at home. But she needed many trifles, like fresh gloves and handkerchiefs; and she must remember the new friends who had been so kind to her. She finally concluded to paint for each a Christmas card.

The holidays were rapidly passing away. One day Mr. Seymour presented himself, and desired to see Millie alone. The interview was a long one, and Nettie teased her friend in a manner of which she alone was capable. She could gain no information as to the result of his visit however. Millie only promised to tell all about it in the morning. Nettie said she "knew he had proposed; she only hoped Millie would say yes. It would be so nice to be cousins and always live near each other."

Millie was very grave and thoughtful. Far from being intoxicated at the brilliant prospect before her, she was sobered and almost appalled by the magnitude of the decision she was thus called upon to decide. The next day when he called for his answer, he was surprised by a decided "No." He had supposed a simple country girl would find him as irresistible as many a city belle had done. But she was firm in her decision, and would take no more time to think of it.

She liked the man, but she was very sure she could not love him. Did the memory of a pair of brown eyes poring over the day book in a country store, have anything to do with her decision? There are depths in the soul that the soul's line has never sounded, as there are depths in the sea that are fathomless. However this may be Mr. Seymour withdrew, admiring the young girl more than ever.

Nettie, the impulsive romance lover, was much disappointed, and Millie was strangely uncomfortable.

About this time—it was the morning of the New Year—as she sat at breakfast, a telegram was brought in. She hastily read the sad news that her mother was very ill, and she must come home by the next train.

It was a sad parting. Nettie clung to her friend, sobbing, but Millie shed not a tear. She looked like a marble image. It was a sad journey. She had but one thought—one word rang through her brain—mother. One thought she had when she pressed a kiss upon her mother's brow, after she reached her home—she must save her mother's life. But tears and prayers could not avail, and she stood beside her mother's coffin utterly broken in spirit.

But only the rich can indulge in selfish grief, and Millie was brought sharply to the contest with poverty. Only a few weeks after her mother's death she witnessed the marriage of her aunt Mary and a good deacon who had solicited her hand early in the winter. Only Mrs. Kingston's invalidism had protected the consummation at an earlier date. Millie was now left alone with her father, and the sad truth came stealing upon her that not only was his health shattered, but that the eyes which were wont to kindle over her sketches, were losing—yes, had lost—their sight!

These were dark days, truly. He who had once been stalwart, the sole dependence of his family, must be guided like a child. He was helpless for like an infant. Millie was human; small the wonder, then, if she sometimes thought of what might have been. But our heroine was young, and youth is never hopeless. She engaged the spring term of school; the farm was rented, and she hired a tiny cottage near the school-house.

She regained something of her old courage, and she had strength to say "no," when that grocer's clerk asked her the same question the fastidious Milton Seymour had required her to answer the preceding winter. It was harder to say it this time, for the heart pleaded, instead of the head, but Duty said "no," and duty must be obeyed.

Richard Stanton had striven hard to lift himself above the adverse circumstances surrounding him. He had worked his way as a district school-teacher, until he stood at the head of the Junior class of a well known college. Then his father died, leaving a mother and two young sisters with only a dwelling house, after creditors had been paid.

His father had been the principal grocery dealer in the place, and the new grocer who bought the store offered young Stanton the clerkship which he accepted.

Millie felt the utter hopelessness of their love, but this did not lessen the esteem they felt for each other. She could not leave her father. She saw that his duty was to remain with his mother and sisters, after they had talked over the matter calmly.

Nevertheless, the brown head bent over the day-book at the corner grocery he came to her the head of a hero; and to him the slender form at the teacher's desk was the transfigured form of a saint.

Nettie, happily married, cannot comprehend Millie, herself, has no idea of being a heroine. But in her quiet happiness there is a gleam of triumph. She has realized her ideal.

Poultry Department.

New Breeds.

Mr. Editor: For years I have been keeping hens, without any regard to breeds, and think I have made money out of them. You claim a sure profit in keeping this or that variety, but I sometimes think it is only to get people to buy eggs or stock. Please tell us what the advantage is for us to keep any of the new breeds.

The above, from an old friend and correspondent, calls for more than a passing notice. This man has been gradually gathering in a comfortable property while following very closely in the footsteps of his father, and finds it very hard to break away from old time methods. His cows are natives, his sheep, swine and poultry, of any breed, or a mixture of all, and that there is any more money to be made in keeping one variety he very much doubts, hence this query.

We all keep stock for the dollars to be got out of the business, and the one question uppermost should be, how can I get the most at the least expense? One fact will be accepted, that the standard of our stock does not remain fixed. It either improves or falls back. Improvement comes just in proportion as we select and mate with this object in view. Promiscuous breeding will surely result in poorer stock. This we accept as truth, but do not carry it out in practice as we should. Out of our native stock there occasionally comes a cow that is a great milk producer, or a horse that is a trotter, but these are the exceptions. Believing in the "survival of the fittest" in breeding, these choicer animals are selected upon which to build a herd.

In this way, year after year, there comes gradual improvement in the essentials of stock breeding, until the breed is fixed. As an illustration we have the Jerseys, noted for butter making qualities, the Herefords and Durhams for beef and working oxen, and so on through the list. The fact that a cow is a Jersey does not prove her valuable, for we must know that, in the selection of her ancestors this choice object has been kept steadily in view. We speak of Hambletonian horses as trotters, because for generations they have been bred in that line.

These facts prove that we may do as we please with our flocks and herds if we will study the principles of breeding, and seek to apply them intelligently. With our hens the same rule holds good. Our friend, who has been keeping anything for a hen, has a large flock of cross bred fowl, combining the blood of the Asiatics, Spanish, Games and Bantams. Among these are some good layers, but as a lot, they are below the average, for the simple reason that having different temperaments, and requiring different care, they will not all thrive when mixed together. A sluggish Brahma will soon become too fat to lay, if fed the same amount as may be given an active, stirring Game or Leghorn. This in itself should settle the question of one variety.

While breeding pure blood stock we have always been ready to give what seems to be a good reason for urging upon others the selection of some one variety. By careful matings, using only the best, we may improve in size and egg production, and hasten maturity. To accomplish the same with a mixed lot requires far greater skill and labor, for the individual characteristics of each must be studied in order to procure this object.

Not content with established breeds, combinations of blood were used to produce what is now known as the Plymouth Rocks. For twenty years they have been before the public, and all this time breeders have been carefully mating and selecting with the view to improving, so that the Plymouth Rock of to-day, is far ahead of that of ten years ago in shape and egg production. Those who condemn the breed, do so because they don't know or care to know that have, through neglect, been allowed to revert. Some breeders act upon the principle that once a Plymouth Rock, it must always be such, and make no effort to improve, hence failure is certain.

Not content with this variety the Wyandottes have appeared, and they combine the same essential traits as the Plymouth Rocks, save that they are not quite as large, and mature even more rapidly.

The White Plymouth Rocks are the same in type as the others, save color. This gives them an advantage which, in time, will place them at the front. In dressing for the market, being pure white, there are no dark spots from colored pin feathers to mar the surface.

From these varieties one may be selected, and each year find improvement not *possible* with mixed breeds. Selecting the best for breeders, size will be secured, maturity hastened, and egg production increased. Having these three objects in view, greater profit will be realized each year, and the increased value of one breed, successfully handled, becomes a fact with any one who will, persistently and intelligently, breed them for a term of years.

Keeping Eggs.

Various methods are advanced for keeping eggs until better prices can be secured. With the market price ruling at twelve cents per doz. during the month of June many have resorted to one experiment or another to keep their eggs over until cooler weather, and an increased demand bring better prices. Two things are necessary to exclude the air, and keep at an even temperature. It is well to test these methods and see which is best. If by any means within the reach of ordinary breeders and farmers, eggs can be kept from July until November, the fact should be known.

The *Journal of the Medical Academy of Turin* says:

The sure and simple method of keeping eggs sound by smearing the shells with linseed-oil has long been practiced. The oil forms a sort of film over the shell, thereby preventing the two immediate causes of decomposition—the evaporation from and penetration of air into the egg. A recent experiment in point deserves notice. A dozen new laid eggs were rubbed over with linseed-oil applied with the tip of the finger; another dozen were coated, in like manner, with poppy-oil; two more eggs were left in their natural state. The whole twenty-six were then laid close together, in three rows, in dry sand, upon a shelf, where they were left undisturbed. At the end of three months they were weighed, tested again at the end of six months, when they were opened. The two eggs left in their natural state, at the end of three months, had lost eleven per cent. of their weight, and at the end of six months eighteen per cent. and were found to be half empty and the contents rotten. The eggs coated with poppy-oil in three months lost three per cent., and in six months but seven and a half per cent. of their weight. The eggs were still full and devoid of unpleasant smell. The eggs rubbed over with linseed-oil, in three months lost two per cent., and in six months three per cent. only of their weight, and when opened were found to be full, with the smell of fresh eggs.

The *Ohio Farmer* says: Coating the eggs with some substance that will render the shells impervious to the air, has a thing that has been supposed to be effectual, or packing in some substance to secure a like result. It is well known that there is an "air sac" in the large end of an egg, and it is now believed by some that to this must be attributed the failure of methods for preserving. A machine has recently been invented, which punctures the shell over this air-chamber, and, by means of a vacuum, withdraws the air and fills the space with melted paraffine, at the same time coating the outside of the egg with the same material. We have seen eggs thus treated, said to be seven months old, that were as fresh seemingly as when first laid. The claim is that they will keep for years. We are not prepared to give an opinion as to the influence of the air inside the egg; but we believe paraffine as an outside coating cannot be objected to. This can be secured by simply dipping the eggs in the melted paraffine.

Eggs by Weight.

A great deal has been said and written about selling eggs by weight, but we are no nearer a solution, and the subject passes on to a distant future. In the early settlement of a country the agricultural productions are usually generous; but being difficult to transport to distant markets, are, consequently, of little value. Hence, no great accuracy is required in the barter trades or exchanges for the necessaries of life.

With increased population, diversified occupations, and improved facilities for transportation to commanding markets, the products of the farm are enhanced in value, and greater exactness in business transactions is the result. Selling poultry by the pair, or the dozen, is too indefinite a method, and the better way is to calculate by pounds and ounces.

But this reform should also extend to eggs, and the farmer who offers for sale eggs which, if weighed, would be found to require three dozen to equal two dozen of his neighbor's (who keeps a larger breed of hens), yet sold as they are by the dozen, receives one-third more money for the same weight than the other farmer; the injustice of this custom is self-apparent.

It is one of those rules in regular business routine which it is hard to get out of. Suppose the change should be made, there are many who would have a hand in it. The dealer is anxious to secure a bargain which shall satisfy his customers, consequently he is pleased to handle large eggs at dozen rates; but the small eggs must be used also, and if the price is fixed per dozen by the large eggs the small eggs are the gainers. Then, if the price is fixed per pound, the buyer gets more eggs in number, if buying small eggs, and some producers and dealers fear a revolution in favor of small eggs. It is said that it would occasion some trouble to arrive at the exact weight, or, in other words, to weigh exactly one pound of eggs; but that would regulate itself. The market man does not cut anything off from a porterhouse steak to make it weigh a given number of pounds, nor does he try to make a chicken weigh exactly what the customer requires. It is also argued that eggs could still be sold by the dozen at a price regulated by weight. An average twenty cents a pound, and nine eggs weighed one pound, one dozen of the same eggs would be worth twenty-eight cents, while one dozen eggs that weighed one pound would be worth only twenty-one cents. The buyer will pay his money and take his choice; it is twenty-eight cents or it is twenty-one cents per dozen, or it is twenty-one cents a pound. This is perfectly clear and fair to all. The producer obtains more per dozen for his large eggs, which have no doubt cost more, as eggs cannot be made without food, which the hens thus utilize; while the producer of small eggs is able to sell more eggs for the same amount of money and at an equal profit. If it is a satisfaction to the producer of large eggs to serve his customers with an article of very superior quality, it is equally satisfactory to the producer of small eggs to be able to give a greater quantity for the same value.—*American Poultry Yard.*

Work for the Hens.

What is the secret of success in poultry breeding? asks a correspondent about to enter the business. There is no secret. All that is needed is for one to be up to the individual and work on the part of the hens. Want of exercise is the great hindrance, the real cause of so many failures. Plain, clean, cheap buildings well ventilated, simple food, and plenty of water tells the story. Without this exercise the hens soon become over fat, out of condition, and fail to produce eggs. This is as essential to a good flock as to the health of the individual. A proper amount of food, and an abundance of work will secure health and productiveness. To realize this we must so distribute the food that it will be sought after and picked up, a grain at a time, and the greater the amount of scratching necessary to obtain the supply the better for the hens. Keep the hens busy.

Choice Miscellany.

CATAMOUNTS. A number of catamounts have been seen in Jackson, lately, and parties have been organized to hunt and kill the animals, but so far, although four of the cats have been seen, none of them have as yet "passed in their checks." Two young men fired thirteen rounds of shot and slugs at one of the old cats, and she was also attacked with a pitchfork, but did not surrender. One of the other cats was a full grown one, while the others are half grown young. Soon after the first hunt, another party consisting of seventeen brave men and the best hound in the neighborhood started out for another attack upon the wild beasts, but the dog soon backed out and so did some are still at large. These animals are new to the town, being the first any one can recollect of seeing there. They are of a dirty gray color, with sharp claws, pointed ears and blazing eyes.

A little son of Mr. Irving Carter, of West Ellsworth, caught three young squirrels last week which he brought home, and, strange as it may appear, they were immediately adopted by the house-cat which had one kitten. She took much pride in her patron and the three young squirrels at the same time, and together they form a happy family.

At a fair recently held at Senator Logan's house in Washington for the benefit of the Garfield Hospital, it is related that Mr. Logan devoted his attention for some time to a very bright and pretty girl who kept the cigar and cigarette booth. As he stood at the side of the booth looking for all the world like the wooden Indian of the old-fashioned tobacco shop, several other Senators came up, and one of them said: "Why does Logan linger here so long?" "Oh," said the presiding genius of the booth, "that's all right; he's my sign." At which Logan laughed as heartily as the rest.

A peculiar birch tree has been discovered by Mr. G. F. Dennis, in the woods on his farm in Madison. The wonder is in a limb that joins the trunk at right angles about 6 feet from the ground, and maintains its horizontal position the whole length, nearly 40 feet, is but 6 inches in diameter close to the tree, which is about 18 inches in diameter. Mr. Dennis is familiar with wood craft, but says he never saw so long a limb as this one in the State, trot her out. C. S. A.

For the Maine Farmer.

A Few Words in Self-Defence.

In the *Farmer* of July 1st, I notice an article by Daniel Stickney, in which he says my articles are always "sad, sorrowful, gloomy, foreboding, fearful and terrible." I think if Mr. Stickney has read my articles which have appeared from time to time in the *Farmer* and other papers, he can not fail to see that many are on the "brighter side," although I may be one of the "weeping willows of Aroostook." I can appreciate "beautiful mornings in June." I enjoy a fine day, also a lovely evening, and I do not go about shedding tears, although Mr. Stickney seems to think that is the case. I know that nothing but physical pain mars the happiness of "beast, bird, fish or insect," but I would like to ask Mr. Stickney if they have immortal souls? I think he will find that most people have trials and disappointments and some may even have "gloomy forebodings."

I believe in laughter. I think God wants his children to laugh and enjoy life, but I do not think he wants them to laugh continually. We are to stand on the sea of glass, having our robes washed in the blood of the Lamb, white as snow, but we are to come up there out of much tribulation. Does that imply that we are to have no afflictions in this life? I think not. I think if Mr. Stickney will search the word of God, he will find that those who are to be saved are to have trials in this world, but in that world of glory and light their reward will be great. It is quite possible for a person to be pleasant, contented and at peace with all mankind, without being always in a laughing mood. I feel truly sorry for any person who can breathe God's air and enjoy his countless blessings without seeing any cause for sadness. While our hearts are filled with praise to Him who reigns on high, are we to feel no anxiety in regard to our fellow men? Are we to think of self alone? Are we to feel just as happy if we see friends on the downward road? No true child of God finds life a waveless sea over which he can pass without encountering any storms or making any mistakes to regret. Our Redeemer has lived on earth. He has set an example for us to follow. Was he always in a laughing mood? Did He see no cause for sadness? Ah! dear friends, there *is* cause for sadness, and there is cause for laughter. We are to "rejoice evermore," but our heavenly Father wants us to rejoice in a right spirit.

And if we see no cause for sadness, no cause for tears, how can we labor for Him in a right spirit? Let us be careful lest we may say "Lord, Lord," and do not more. By and by there will be no cause for tears, but with white robes and starry crowns we shall sing the new song. There will be no disappointments, no troubles, but an eternity of bliss.

In conclusion, I will say that I have no desire to engage in a controversy with any person or persons, and, having expressed my views, shall write no more on this subject. WILLARD N. JENKINS.

Easton.

[We regarded the criticism of Mr. Stickney as very ungenerous, and therefore insert Mr. Jenkins' reply. ED.]

Wit. Humor, and Pleasantries.

A New York paper says the milk sold in that city is a "white lie."

"Mamma," said little Willie, as he stood looking through the window at the big moon, "do good people, when they die, go to heaven and play on harps?" "Yes, my child." "I sh'd think they'd play on the piano. Most everybody can play on that, an' they wouldn't have to learn all over."

A sleep-walker at Charleston jumped from a window 15 feet high, walked a mile and indulged a barn of a lunch, and then woke up. It wouldn't take him long to get rich if he was as smart as that when he was awake.

Money is very welcome in these days. A man who had to leave his office, and was expecting a caller to pay him some money, left this notice on his door: "I have gone out for half an hour. Will be back soon. Have been gone twenty minutes already."

"How does my wife take my incarceration?" asked a convicted Mormon of a brother. "Susie cries her eyes out; Jennie is sad at times; Martha don't seem to care very much; Sophie says she is going back to her parents in Tennessee; while Eugenia is already engaged again."

A California school teacher was reproving one of his boys for not making better progress in his handwriting. Said he: "Why, when I was a boy at your age, I could write almost as well as I do now." "Yes, sir," replied the promising lad, "I guess you could, but maybe you had a better teacher than I have."

It is said that only one acre out of every 3,000 in Florida is fitted for habitation. All the rest can do with the remainder is to sell it to Northerners.

A carpenter may have many virtues, still he can't get along without vises.

A fire company at Jamestown, N. Y., was called out a day or two ago to turn the hose on a man who had whipped his wife.

"I must have order in this court room," sternly commanded a justice of the peace. "I must and will have less noise and confusion here. I have already disposed of three important cases without being able to hear one word of evidence."

The reason why the word "honeymoon" is only applied to married persons is probably because the moon only affects the tied.

Fond mother—"Are you better, my dear?" Little Effie—"I dunno; is the jelly all gone?" "No." "Well, I'm well enough to get up, then."

The opinion now held by Cloverdale physicians that "raw cow's milk is better for children than boiled" is very gratifying, as a raw cow gives much more milk than a boiled one.

Hearing a noise at night, Jones descends with a lighted candle, and discovers a burglar escaping with a full sack. "Hello!" he cries. "Come back, you!" "Eh! what?" returns the burglar; "Ah, yes, the silver candlestick! Permit me!" He takes it from the astonished Jones, and puts it in his bag. "Ten thousand thanks! Have I forgotten anything else?"

A story of a country parson's independence will be appreciated by those annoyed by late comers to church. A man came into church late and started, with squeaky boots, to walk the whole length of the side gallery. The pastor, who was praying, paused suddenly, opened his eyes, and, pointing a long finger to the disturber, said: "You sit down right where you are." He then resumed his prayer.

ELDER CASE. Many people in this vicinity, and indeed throughout Maine, revere the memory of Elder Isaac Case. A portrait of the venerable clergyman has been painted for Colby University, by Miss H. B. Skeele of Portland, the funds for which were made up by private subscriptions. Mr. Case was born in Rehoboth, Mass., February 25, 1761. He was ordained September 10, 1783, and at once made his way into those parts of Maine into which settlers were at that time pressing. He commenced his missionary labors in Brunswick. Twice he went to Harpswell. Subsequently he preached in Georgetown, Newcastle and Thomaston. In the latter place a church was formed of which he was pastor until 1792. Ten years after his arrival in the district he assisted in the organization of the Bowdoinham Association, with three churches and one hundred and eighty-three members. During his pastorate in Thomaston he performed evangelistic services in destitute portions of the district of Maine, and laid the foundations of many of the earlier Baptist churches in the State. One of these was a church in Readfield, which he organized in 1792, and of which he was pastor from 1792 to 1800. In seventeen years Bowdoinham Association had grown from three churches and one hundred and eighty-three members to forty-eight churches and two thousand one hundred and twenty-one members. From 1800, until the infirmities of age prevented, Mr. Case was a most active and efficient and extensive missionary labors in various parts of what is now the State of Maine, and eastward across the border, and there are few of the early Baptist churches in Maine by which mention could not be made of his self-denying labors. He died at his home in Readfield full of years and honor, Nov. 3, 1832, in the ninety-second year of his age, and his remains rest in the quiet graveyard of that town. The elegant frame which adorns the portrait is the gift of Hon. John S. Case of Rockland, a nephew of Rev. Isaac Case.

WEATHER PROVERBS FOR JULY. If the 1st of July be rainy weather,
'Twill rain more or less for three weeks together.

If it rains on the 2d, then it will rain the next four weeks.

If it rains on July 10, it will rain for seven weeks.

If three days previous to St. Jacob's Day (30th) are clear, then the rye will be good.

Clear on St. Jacob's Day promises plenty of fruit.

Dog days bright and clear,
Indicate a good year;
But when accompanied by rains,
Which quite shower them in vain.

Whatever July and August do not boll, September cannot fry.

What July and August left undone in cooking, September will have undone in roasting. (German.)

July, God send thee calm and fair,
That happy harvests we may see;
With quiet time and healthsome air,
And man to God may thankful be.

As July, so the next January.

THE JUMBO HEIFER OF MAINE. J. J. Rollins, Camden, has a heifer 3 yrs. and a few days old, high grade Holstein, raised and fed by himself, whose girth is 7 ft. 8 in., a very long, heavy built animal, smooth and handsome, still apparently in good growing condition. Mr. Rollins informs me that she has gained an average of an inch a month for the past year, and has never been